

339

58

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CIRCULAR.

American Portrait Gallery,

CONTAINING

PORTRAITS AND MEMOIRS

OF

MEN NOW LIVING.

A NEW and elegant edition of this great work, in four volumes, comprising about 2,000 pages of letter press, and *two hundred and thirty-eight fine steel portraits*, some of which are among the finest specimens of artistic skill, has just been published, at an expense of nearly twenty-four thousand dollars. The portraits form the most complete and valuable collection in existence in this country.

The volumes present to the world truthful likenesses and biographies of men now living, including clergymen, lawyers, doctors, soldiers, statesmen, financiers, merchants, manufacturers, planters, and those of other respectable vocations. In the following table of contents will be found the names of President Pierce, with every member of his cabinet, Justices of the Supreme Court of the U. S., Governors, Army Officers, and many others deservedly standing among the first in the United States.

While transmitting to posterity the memory of persons of the present day, these memoirs will instill in the minds of our children the important lesson, that honor and station are the sure reward of continued exertion—and that, compared to a good education, with habits of honest industry and economy, the greatest fortune would be but a poor inheritance. If the work contains the names of many who have enjoyed every advantage which affluence and early education could bestow, it also traces the history of those who, by their own unaided efforts, have risen from obscurity to the highest and most responsible trusts in the land.

The value of biography, as a study for the young, has always been highly appreciated; but it has been too much the fashion to direct our youth to the lives of Plutarch rather than to the achievements of men in our own time. Not only is much of the moral force, which it is the peculiar advantage of biography to impart, lost by the purely ideal aspect in which the youthful imagination contemplates a Grecian sage or a Roman hero, but the spheres of distinction in which they were illustrious were so different from those to which men are now attracted, that very little either of wholesome incentive or needed encouragement can be de-

rived from them. Great antiquity, far-off distance of time, invests the character of even a common mind with a glory beautiful as a picture, but noways encouraging as an example. We look at them to admire, but not to imitate. In full harmony, therefore, not only with the spirit of the age, but no less with the wants of our nature, we are gratified to see a growing tendency toward the publication and study of a cotemporaneous biography, not in a few departments of life only, but in every walk in which the human mind may usefully and honorably exert itself. Every pursuit needs the encouragement of successful examples.

Instruction is often most effectually given by example. Not a few men, it is believed, pass their lives in obscurity and want, mainly because from the unfavorable circumstances in which their lives commence, they pass the period of youth under a vague but general impression that eminence, in any important respect, is unattainable by them; and hence they form no fixed *purpose* to attain it. A better means of dissipating this delusion, rousing the minds of young men and lads to high and noble aims, and stimulating them to the achievements of such aims, can hardly be adopted than holding before them the example and history of others who have pushed their way upward into affluence, honor and usefulness, from amid circumstances not less discouraging than their own.

Success, though sometimes apparently flowing from the caprices of fortune, is, after all, the surest test of real merit; and it is encouraging to every young man who, repining not at the accidents of his birth, looks up with a trustful spirit to higher spheres of usefulness and fame, to know that others have gone before him with prospects no fairer than his own, and have triumphed. The success of others gives us confidence in ourselves. What they have done, we may do; and thus the example of those who have successfully trod any of the diversified paths of life becomes the mental heritage of every aspiring spirit, more valuable than houses or lands. It is the capital which plumes the pinions of hope—the stock in trade which gives confidence to the mind, when failure might else point to despair.

This work exhibits, as all biography will, that those who are most successful in obtaining honors, public respect and wealth, have not pursued these as the *end* of their labors, but have obtained them as incidents to active virtues. When we make reputation, honor or riches the *motives* instead of the *rewards* of our conduct, we reverse the order which Providence has established, and fail of obtaining what we are perversely seeking. When Solomon was asked what he most desired, he said, "Give thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people. And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life, nor riches, nor the life of thine enemies, lo! I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. And I have also given thee what thou hast not asked, both riches and honor." He asked to perform well his duties, and the performance brought with it riches and honor as incidents of duty.

If a lawyer discharges well and faithfully his legal duties, riches and honor will follow as natural incidents; but should he make riches the object of his efforts, he will not necessarily perform faithfully his legal

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If a lawyer discharges well and faithfully his legal duties, riches and honor will follow as natural incidents; but should he make riches the object of his efforts, he will not necessarily perform faithfully his legal


duties, but by subordinating them to avarice, he will lose his business and character without in the end obtaining the riches thus viciously pursued.

A politician who interests himself usefully in public matters will obtain official station as an incident of his usefulness; but should he make office the motive of his political conduct, he will be as often uselessly busy as actively useful, and give offence by officiousness rather than gain favor by usefulness. So, an officer who discharges faithfully his public duties will obtain popularity as an incident of his faithfulness; but should he pursue popularity as the object of his actions, he will not, necessarily, discharge faithfully his duties, but will subordinate them to his popularity, and so waver in his conduct and fluctuate in his sentiments as to fail in reaching the desired end. A physician who skillfully performs his practice will obtain celebrity and patronage as incidents of his skill; but should he pursue celebrity and patronage as motives, he will magnify slight ailments, that he may obtain the merit of achieving astonishing recoveries. He will publish miraculous cures which never occurred, and he will be condemned rather than obtain patronage and celebrity.

A like principle pervades, necessarily, all the business occupations of life. The organization of man, of society, and of the universe, are alike favorable to honesty and virtuous conduct. Duties faithfully discharged lead to wealth and honor; duties selfishly performed to poverty and disgrace. There are many memoirs in this work illustrative of these truths.

It is needless to remark further on the extended information and delight we derive from the multiplication of portraits by engraving, or on the more important advantages resulting from the study of biography. Separately considered, the one affords an amusement not less innocent than elegant, inculcates the rudiments, or aids the progress of taste, and rescues from the hand of time the perishable monuments raised by the pencil or the daguerrean art. The other—while it is, perhaps, the more agreeable branch of historical literature—is certainly the more useful in its moral effects; stating the known circumstances, and endeavoring to unfold the secret motives of human conduct; selecting all that is worthy of being recorded, it at once informs and invigorates the mind, warms and mends the heart. It is, however, from the combination of portrait and biography that we reap the utmost degree of utility and pleasure which can be derived from them. As, in contemplating the portrait of a person, we long to be instructed in his history, so, in considering his actions, we are anxious to behold his countenance. So earnest is this desire, that the imagination is ready to coin a set of features or to conceive a character to supply the painful absence of one or the other. It is impossible to conceive a work which ought to be more interesting than one which will exhibit before our progeny their fathers as they lived, accompanied with such memoirs of their lives and characters as shall furnish a comparison of persons and countenances with sentiments and actions.

 See following pages for Table of Contents of the four volumes.

 See the last page for the price of the work.

A FEW NOTICES OF THE PRESS.

In a recent notice the *New-York Commercial Advertiser* says :

The portraits are all engraved from daguerreotypes, in the finest style of the art, and are undoubtedly correct. We can vouch for the remarkable fidelity of the likenesses of those persons with whose faces we are familiar. This truly national work is creditable to the ability and enterprise of Mr. Livingston, and should adorn every public and private library in the country. To expatiate on the value of such a work would be superfluous, as it must commend itself to universal favor.

The *Boston Daily Bee* says :

The volumes contain exquisitely finished steel plate engravings, which alone are worth far more than the cost of the work. It would be a tame compliment to remark that these portraits and memoirs form one of the most interesting works of the age. They are more—they are the most valuable. Here is a vast amount of information, which must have cost immense toil, and which none but an intellectual giant could or would have collected. One remarkable and most encouraging fact shines from every page of these volumes, viz. : that nearly all our men of eminence have risen from the ranks of the masses ; risen by the most indomitable energy, industry and integrity.

We cordially recommend Mr. Livingston's great American work. It should be on every table and in every library, that the young of our land may draw inspiration and courage from the noble men it portrays.

The *New-York National Democrat* says :

So far as we know, this is the first book of any sort that purposes to hand down to after times, in an authentic form, the portraits and characters of men distinguished in the walks of private as well as of public life. The author's conception of the great work of living biographies was fortunate in the extreme. No other plan of the kind has before been so fully undertaken and so well carried out. We cannot but regard this large and splendid production as one of the most remarkable and valuable this country has yet seen.

The *New-York Tribune* says :

It exhibits a remarkable catalogue of self-made men, and illustrates the steps by which they arose from obscurity to wealth and consideration. It is pleasing to remark that the individuals of whom sketches are here given are indebted for their success in life to genuine, sturdy, straightforward qualities ; to energy, diligence and enterprise, rather than to the arts by which so many manage to swindle themselves into a good reputation.

The *Washington Daily Union* says :

By a large expenditure of means the author has attained to that point which he had in view when he commenced his labors upon it—that is, to make it a work which, while it might elicit admiration and praise as to its mechanical arrangement, should at the same time be a true historical record of the lives and services of those eminent citizens whose portraits adorn its columns.

CONTENTS OF VOLUMES I, II, III. AND IV.

NAMES OF SUBJECTS CLASSIFIED ALPHABETICALLY.

	PAGE
ALCORN, JAMES L., of Coahoma Co., Mississippi ; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	106
ALLEN, STEPHEN M., of Boston, Massachusetts ; <i>Merchant</i> and <i>Banker</i> ; Vol. III.,	57
• ANDERSON, SAMUEL, of Murfreesboro', Tennessee ; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the Circuit Court for the Fifth Circuit ; Vol. II.,	419
ANSPACH, JOHN, JUNIOR, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania ; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. III.,	309
AMONETT, JAMES J., of Richmond, Louisiana ; <i>Statesman</i> and <i>Jurist</i> ; Vol. IV.,	32
AYER, RICHARD H., of Manchester, New Hampshire ; <i>Manufacturer</i> ; [deceased ;] late President of the Amoskeag Bank ; Vol. I.,	113
BADGER, LUTHER, of Binghamton, New York ; <i>Lawyer</i> ; formerly a Member of Congress ; Vol. II.,	595
BARBEE, WILLIAM, of Troy, Ohio ; <i>Statesman</i> and <i>Jurist</i> ; Vol. IV.,	125
BARNARD, WILLIAM T., of Issaquena County, Mississippi ; <i>Planter</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	149
BARRINGER, DANIEL M., of Cabarras County, North Carolina ; <i>Lawyer</i> ; formerly Member of the United States Congress, and Minister to the Court of Spain ; Vol. I.,	51
BASH, HENRY M., of Baltimore, Maryland ; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. III.,	431
BATTLE, WILLIAM H., of Chapel Hill, North Carolina ; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the Superior Court ; Vol. II.,	771
BAXTER, ELI H., of Sparta, Georgia ; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Jurist</i> ; formerly Judge of the Supreme Court ; Vol. III.,	285
BELL, MONTGOMERY, of Williamson County, Tennessee ; <i>Iron Manufacturer</i> ; Vol. IV.,	275

	PAGE
BIDDLE, HORACE P., of Logansport, Indiana; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Author</i> ; President Judge of the Eighth Judicial Circuit; Vol. I.,	257
BIERCE, LUCIUS V., of Akron, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> , <i>Statesman</i> and <i>Soldier</i> ; Vol. III.,	247
BOTTUM, NATHAN H., of Shaftesbury, Vermont; <i>Jurist</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	286
BOWLES, JOSHUA B., of Louisville, Kentucky; <i>Financier</i> ; President of the Bank of Louisville; Vol. II.	645
BOWMAN, JAMES L., of Brownsville, Pennsylvania; <i>Mer-</i> <i>chant</i> ; President of the Monongahela Bank; Vol. I.,	357
BOUTELLE, TIMOTHY, of Waterville, Maine; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. III.,	41
BRIERLY, BENJAMIN, of San Francisco, California; <i>Clergy-</i> <i>man</i> ; Vol. IV.,	427
BRIGHAM, JOSIAH, of Quincy, Massachusetts; <i>Merchant</i> ; President of the Quincy Stone Bank; Vol. I.,	31
BRISBANE, A. H., of Charleston, South Carolina; <i>Soldier</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. III.,	317
BROOKS, CHARLES, of Medford, Massachusetts; <i>Author</i> and <i>Clergyman</i> ; Vol. III.,	257
BROOKS, NATHAN C., of Baltimore, Maryland; <i>Author</i> and <i>Teacher</i> ; Vol. III.,	161
BROWN, AARON V., of Nashville, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Governor of Tennessee, and Member of Congress; Vol. I.,	89
BROWN, EDWIN R., of Gallatin, Mississippi; <i>Planter</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	320
BROWN, SAMUEL A., of Jamestown, New York; <i>Lawyer</i> ; formerly Member of the New York Assembly; Vol. I.	53
BROWN, WILLIAM G., of Kingwood, Virginia; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. III.,	333
BULLOCK, WILLIAM F., of Louisville, Kentucky; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the Circuit Court for the Sixth Circuit; Vol. I.,	283
BURNET, JACOB, of Cincinnati, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late United States Senator, and Judge of the Supreme Court of Ohio; Vol. I.,	265
CALHOUN, JAMES M., of Atlanta, Georgia; <i>Lawyer</i> , <i>States-</i> <i>man</i> and <i>Soldier</i> ; Vol. IV.,	52
CAMPBELL, DAVID, of Newark, New Jersey; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. IV.,	72
CAMPBELL, JAMES, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Postmaster-General; Vol. III.,	239
CAMPBELL, JOHN C., of Wheeling, Virginia; <i>Physician</i> ; President of the Northwestern Bank of Virginia; Vol. I.,	161
CATCHINGS, THOMAS J., of Hinds County, Mississippi; <i>Phy-</i> <i>isian</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	281

	PAGE
CATRON, JOHN, of Nashville, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; Vol. II., . . .	805
CHAMBERLAIN, EBENEZER M., of Goshen, Indiana; <i>Lawyer and Statesman</i> ; Member of Thirty-third Congress; Vol. IV.,	150
CHAPMAN, JOHN BUTLER, of Oberlin, Ohio; <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	436
CHAPMAN, JOHN GRANT, of Glen Albin, Maryland; <i>Lawyer and Planter</i> ; Vol. IV.,	252
CHRISTY, WILLIAM, of New Orleans, Louisiana; <i>Lawyer and Soldier</i> ; Vol. III.,	375
CHURCH, LEONARD, of Lee, Massachusetts; <i>Paper Manufacturer</i> ; President of the Lee Bank; Vol. I.,	35
CLARK, LINCOLN, of Du Buque, Iowa; <i>Lawyer and Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	155
CLARKE, WILLIAM B., of Hagerstown, Maryland; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Member of the House of Delegates in 1844, and Senate in 1846; Vol. I.,	299
CLAY, JOHN RANDOLPH, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; <i>Diplomatist</i> ; Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to Peru, South America; Vol. I.,	133
CLEVELAND, ELIJAH, of Irasburg, Vermont; <i>Jurist and Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	145
COALE, JAMES M., of Frederick, Maryland; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. III.,	299
COLT, JAMES B., of St. Louis, Missouri; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Judge of the Criminal Court of St. Louis; Vol. I.,	149
CONVERSE, E. A., of Tolland, Connecticut; <i>Banker and Merchant</i> ; Vol. III.,	91
COOPER, DAVID, of St. Paul, Minesota; <i>Lawyer and Jurist</i> ; formerly Judge of the Supreme Court of Minesota; Vol. IV.,	15
COOPWOOD, THOMAS, of Aberdeen, Mississippi; <i>Lawyer and Planter</i> ; Vol. II.,	631
COTHREN, WILLIAM, of Woodbury, Connecticut; <i>Lawyer and Author</i> ; Vol. IV.,	391
COXE, RICHARD S., of Washington, District of Columbia; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. I.,	247
CRAWFORD, JOEL, of Early County, Georgia; <i>Lawyer, Statesman and Planter</i> ; Vol. III.,	177
CREY, FREDERICK, of Baltimore, Maryland; Vol. III. . . .	433
CROSKEY, JOSEPH R. K., of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; U. S. Consul at Southampton, England; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. IV.,	297
CULLOM, E. NORTH, of Opelousas, Louisiana; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Member of the House of Representatives of Louisiana; Vol. IV.,	360

	PAGE
CULVER, REUBEN, of Logan, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> ; President of the Logan Branch Bank; Vol. I.,	95
CUSHING, CALEB, of Newburyport, Massachusetts; <i>Lawyer, Soldier and Statesman</i> ; Attorney-General for the United States; Vol. III.,	243
CUSHMAN, HENRY W., of Bernardston, Massachusetts; <i>Statesman</i> ; formerly Lieutenant Governor; Vol. III.,	29
CUTLER, PLINY, of Boston, Massachusetts; <i>Merchant</i> ; President of the Atlantic Bank; Vol. I.,	327
DARBY, JOHN F., of St. Louis, Missouri; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Member of the Thirty-second Congress; Vol. I.,	333
DAVIS, CHARLES D., of Monroe, Georgia; <i>Lawyer and Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	134
DAVIS, D. A., of Salisbury, North Carolina; <i>Banker</i> ; Cashier of the Branch of the Bank of Cape Fear; Vol. IV.,	130
DAVIS, JEFFERSON, of Mississippi; <i>Soldier, Planter and Statesman</i> ; Secretary of War; Vol. III.,	235
DAY, JOSEPH, of Jones County, Georgia; <i>Jurist and Planter</i> ; Vol. IV.,	238
DEAN, GILBERT, of Poughkeepsie, New York; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Member of Congress; now Judge of New York Supreme Court; Vol. I.,	339
DEAN, HOSEA J., of Spartanburg, South Carolina; <i>Lawyer and Planter</i> ; Clerk of the House of Representatives of South Carolina; Vol. IV.,	5
DEFORD, BENJAMIN, of Baltimore, Maryland; <i>Manufacturer and Merchant</i> ; Vol. IV.,	143
DE FOREST, RICHARD, of Rochester, New York; <i>Clergyman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	223
DEVENS, DAVID, of Charlestown, Massachusetts; <i>Merchant</i> ; President of the Bunker Hill Bank; Vol. I.,	21
DE WITT, ALEXANDER, of Oxford, Massachusetts; <i>Financier and Politician</i> ; President of the Mechanics' Bank at Worcester; Member of the Thirty-third Congress; Vol. I.,	315
DEXTER, S. NEWTON, of Whitestown, New York; <i>Merchant and Banker</i> ; President of the Bank of Whitestown; Vol. II.,	819
DICKERSON, CORNELIUS S., of Dover, New Jersey; <i>Farmer and Banker</i> ; Vol. IV.,	253
DIFFENDERFFER, HENRY, of Baltimore, Maryland; <i>Author</i> ; Vol. IV.,	343
DIXON, ABCHIBALD, of Henderson, Kentucky; <i>Lawyer</i> ; United States Senator; Vol. II.,	737
DOBBIN, JAMES C., of Fayetteville, North Carolina; <i>Lawyer and Statesman</i> ; Secretary of the Navy; Vol. III.,	65

	PAGE
DOBBINS, MILES G., of Griffin, Georgia; <i>Financier</i> ; Agent Bank State of Georgia; Vol. IV.,	114
DOBYNS, JOHN PORTER, of Maysville, Kentucky; <i>Merchant</i> ; President of the Maysville Branch of the Farmers' Bank of Kentucky; Vol. I.,	7
DOWDELL, JAMES F., of Lafayette, Alabama; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Member of the Thirty-third Congress; Vol. IV.,	1
DOWNES, GEORGE, of Calais, Maine; <i>Financier</i> ; President of the Calais Bank; Vol. I.,	239
DUFFEE, FRANCIS H., of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; <i>Banker</i> ; Member of the Select Council of Philadelphia; Vol. IV.,	169
DUTTON, HENRY, of New Haven, Connecticut; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Professor of Law in Yale College; Governor of Connecticut; Vol. II.,	687
EAVES, NATHANIEL R., of Chesterville, South Carolina; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Member of the Senate of South Carolina; Vol. II.,	597
EDDY, ZECHARIAH, of Middleboro', Massachusetts; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. III.,	5
EDMONDS, JOHN W., of New York; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Judge of the Supreme Court of New York; Vol. II.,	797
EMMONS, H. H., of Detroit, Michigan; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. II.,	451
EVERHART, WILLIAM, of West Chester, Pennsylvania; <i>Statesman</i> ; Member of the Thirty-third Congress; Vol. IV.,	471
EVERITT, ABRAHAM, of South Amboy, New Jersey; <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	139
FARRAR, EDWIN, of Richmond, Virginia; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. IV.,	161
FINLAYSON, JOHN, of Jefferson County, Florida; <i>Planter</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. III.,	453
FISHER, GEORGE, of San Francisco, California; <i>Editor</i> , &c.; now Secretary of the Californian Land Commission; Vol. III.,	441
FOGG, FRANCIS BRINLEY, of Nashville, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Member of the State Constitutional Convention of Tennessee, in 1834; Vol. II.,	667
FONTAINE, EDMUND, of Richmond, Virginia; <i>Soldier</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; President of the Virginia Central Rail-Road; Vol. IV.,	163
FOSTER, LAFAYETTE S., of Norwich, Connecticut; <i>Lawyer</i> ; formerly Mayor of Norwich, and Speaker of the Connecticut House of Representatives; U. S. Senator; Vol. I.,	1
FLETCHER, ELIJAH, of Amherst, Virginia; <i>Planter</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	15

	PAGE
FREELON, THOMAS W., of San Francisco, California; <i>Lawyer</i> ; County Judge; Vol. IV.,	425
FULLER, HENRY H., of Boston, Massachusetts, <i>Lawyer</i> ; (deceased since the publication of his memoir;) Vol. I.,	173
GARLAND, HUGH A., of St. Louis, Missouri; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Author</i> ; Vol. II.,	657
GEORGE, ROBERT, of Scroggsfield, Ohio; Vol. IV.	502
GILMER, JOHN A., of Guilford County, North Carolina; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. I.,	343
GOODWYN, ROBERT H., of Columbia, South Carolina; <i>Physician</i> , <i>Financier</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; President of the Bank of the State of South Carolina; Vol. I.,	193
GORDON, GEORGE H., of Woodville, Mississippi; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Delegate to the Democratic Convention, 1852; Vol. I.,	45
GOTT, JAMES R., of Rockport, Massachusetts; <i>Banker</i> ; Vol. III.,	54
GOULD, JACOB, of Rochester, New York; <i>Merchant</i> ; formerly United States Marshal for the Northern District of New York; now President of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank; Vol. I.,	75
GOVE, CHARLES F., of Nashua, New Hampshire; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	242
GRACE, WILLIAM P., of Pine Bluff, Arkansas; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. I.,	323
GRAVES, CALVIN, of Locust Hill, North Carolina; <i>Lawyer</i> ; formerly Speaker of the House of Commons; Vol. I.,	187
GRIDLEY, ALBERT GALLATIN, of Clinton, New York; <i>Merchant</i> and <i>Banker</i> ; President of the Kirkland Bank; Vol. I.,	63
GRIER, ROBERT COOPER, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; Vol. II.,	813
GRISWOLD, HIRAM, of Cleveland, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Reporter for the Supreme Court; Vol. I.,	373
GUTHRIE, JAMES, of Louisville, Kentucky; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Secretary of the Treasury; Vol. III.,	223
HALDEMAN, S. S., of Columbia, Pennsylvania; <i>Author</i> ; Vol. IV.,	88
HALL, SAMUEL, of Princeton, Indiana; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Farmer</i> ; formerly Lieutenant-Governor of Indiana; Vol. I.,	259
HALL, WILLARD, of Wilmington, Delaware; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the United States District Court for Delaware; Vol. II.,	421
HAMILTON, ALLEN, of Fort Wayne, Indiana; <i>Financier</i> ; President of the Branch Bank at Fort Wayne; Vol. I.,	275

	PAGE
HANLY, THOMAS BURKE, of Helena, Arkansas; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. IV.,	445
HARPER, JOSEPH M., of Concord, New Hampshire; <i>Physi- cian</i> ; President of the Mechanics' Bank; Vol. I.,	107
HARRINGTON, SAMUEL MAXWELL, LL. D. of Dover, Del- aware; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Author</i> ; Justice Superior Court; President of the Delaware Rail-Road; Vol. I.,	129
HARRIS, JAMES C., of Wetumpka, Alabama; <i>Physician</i> ; Vol. IV.,	110
HARRIS, THOMAS, of Washington, District of Columbia; <i>Physician</i> ; formerly Chief of Bureau of Medicine and Surgery; Vol. IV.,	176
HAYNE, ISAAC W., of Charleston, South Carolina; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Attorney-General for the State of South Carolina; Vol. I.,	383
HAYT, SAMUEL A., of Fishkill, New York; <i>Banker</i> and <i>Mer- chant</i> ; President Fishkill Bank; Vol. III.,	365
HITCHCOCK, PETER, (deceased,) late of Painesville, Ohio; <i>Jurist</i> ; for many years Chief Justice of Ohio; Vol. III.,	183
HOGG, JOSEPH L., of Rusk, Texas; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	227
HOOD, CHARLES C., of Somerset, Ohio; <i>Jurist</i> ; Vol. IV., .	273
HOWARD, W. G., of Rochester, New York; <i>Clergyman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	63
HOYT, HIRAM, of Syracuse, New York; <i>Physician</i> ; Vol. IV.,	75
HUBBS, PAUL K., of Benicia, California; <i>Merchant</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Superintendent of Public instruction in California; Vol. IV.,	271
HUMPHREYS, WEST H., of Nashville, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge U. S. District Court; Vol. II.,	829
HUNT, BENJAMIN F., of Charleston, South Carolina; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. II.,	401
JANUARY, ANDREW M., of Maysville, Kentucky; <i>Merchant</i> ; President of the Maysville Branch of the Bank of Ken- tucky; Vol. II.,	445
JONES, LAZARUS J., of Paulding, Mississippi; <i>Planter</i> and <i>Author</i> ; Vol. IV.,	328
KEITH, CHARLES F., of Athens, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Judge of the Circuit Court for the Third Cir- cuit; Vol. II.,	763
KNAPP, ISAAC, of Freemont, Ohio; <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV., .	120
KNOWLES, JOHN A., of Lowell, Massachusetts; <i>Lawyer</i> ; President of the Appleton Bank; Vol. II.,	727
KOCK, CHARLES, of New Orleans, Louisiana; <i>Planter</i> and <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. III.,	407
LABAUVE, ZENON, of Plaquemine, Louisiana; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Member of the Louisiana State Senate; Vol. I.,	11

	PAGE
LANDES, JOHN, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania; <i>Farmer</i> ; President of the Lancaster County Bank; Vol. II., . . .	629
L'AMOREAUX, JAMES, of Albany, New York; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Jurist</i> ; Vol. IV.,	12
LAWRENCE, WILLIAM, of Bellefontaine, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Member of the State Legislature, and Supreme Court Reporter; Vol. I.,	365
LAYTON, WILLIAM E., of Newark, New Jersey; <i>Statesman</i> ; Member Board of Council of Newark; Vol. IV., . . .	231
LEE, OLIVER H., of New York; <i>Engineer</i> ; Vol. III., . . .	271
LONG, STEPHEN H., Lieut. Colonel United States Topographical Engineers; Vol. IV.,	477
LUMPKIN, JOSEPH HENRY, of Athens, Georgia; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia; Vol. II., . .	757
MANN, HORACE, of Yellow Springs, Ohio; <i>Author</i> ; President of Antioch College, at Yellow Springs, Ohio; Vol. IV.,	178
MARCHBANKS, ANDREW J., of McMinnville, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the Circuit Court for the 13th Circuit; Vol. II.,	563
MARCY, WILLIAM L., of Albany, New York; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Secretary of State; Vol. III., . . .	215
MARSHAL, BENJAMIN, of Troy, New York; <i>Merchant</i> and <i>Manufacturer</i> ; Vol. III.,	1
MARSH, MULFORD, of Savannah, Georgia; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. I.,	289
MASON, WILLIAM, of Taunton, Massachusetts; <i>Manufacturer</i> ; President of the Machinists' Bank; Vol. I., . .	13
MEEKER, BRADLEY B., of St. Paul's, Minesota; late Justice of the Supreme Court of Minesota; Vol. I., . . .	319
MERRICK, PLINY, of Worcester, Massachusetts; Justice of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts; Vol. I.,	39
MILLS, WILLIAM H., of Bangor, Maine; <i>Financier</i> ; formerly Mayor of Bangor; Cashier of the Eastern Bank; Vol. II.,	665
MINER, HIRAM J., of Fredonia, New York; <i>Merchant</i> and <i>Financier</i> ; President of H. J. M.'s Bank; Vol. II., . .	509
MONKUR, J. C. S., of Baltimore, Maryland; <i>Physician, Professor, &c.</i> , in the Washington University; Vol. III., . .	435
MOODY, DEXTER, of Troy, New York; <i>Builder</i> ; Vol. IV., .	284
MORELAND, JOHN F., of Heard County, Georgia; <i>Physician</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. III.,	289
McCLELLAND, ROBERT, of Lansing, Michigan; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Secretary of the Interior; Vol. III., . .	231
McCLURE, WILLIAM B., of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for the 5th District; Vol. I.,	381

	PAGE
McDUGALD, JOHN G., of Elizabethtown, North Carolina; <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	335
McHENRY, JOHN H., of Hartford, Kentucky; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. III.,	413
McKAY, DONALD L., of Georgetown, South Carolina; <i>Banker and Planter</i> ; Vol. III.,	21
McLEAN, JOHN, of Cincinnati, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; Vol. II.,	789
MUNN, IRA Y., of Woodford Co., Illinois; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. IV.,	355
NASH, JOHN W., of Powhattan, Virginia; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of Second Circuit Court; Vol. II.,	577
NELSON, THOMAS, of Oregon City, Oregon; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Chief Justice of Oregon; Vol. II.,	559
NORTON, GEORGE W., of Russellville, Kentucky; <i>Merchant</i> ; President of the Southern Bank of Kentucky; Vol. II.,	575
ORR, JAMES L., of Anderson, C. H., South Carolina; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Member of Congress; Vol. II.,	393
OVERTON, ARCHIBALD W., of Carthage, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer and Planter</i> ; formerly on the Bench; Vol. II.,	565
OWEN, C. M., of Stockbridge, Massachusetts; <i>Banker</i> ; Vol. IV.,	291
PADDOCK, LOVLAND, of Watertown, New York; <i>Merchant and Financier</i> ; President of the Black River Bank; Vol. I.,	67
PARKER, WILLIAM, of Boston, Massachusetts; <i>Lawyer and Merchant</i> ; President of the Boylston Bank; Vol. I.,	23
PARKHURST, NATHAN C., of Pontiac, Michigan; <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	341
PATTERSON, ANGUS, of Barnwell District, South Carolina; <i>Lawyer and Planter</i> ; [deceased;] late President of the State Senate; Vol. I.,	387
PEABODY, GEORGE, of Danvers, Massachusetts; <i>Banker and Merchant in London</i> ; Vol. III.,	137
PERRY, BENJAMIN F., of Greenville, South Carolina; <i>Lawyer and Planter</i> ; Vol. II.,	581
PERRY, HORATIO J., of New Hampshire; <i>Statesman</i> ; Secretary U. S. Legation, at Madrid; Vol. IV.	448
PETERS, FREDERICK G., of Nelson County, Virginia; <i>Physician and Planter</i> ; Vol. III.,	255
PHILLIPS, WILLARD, of Boston, Massachusetts; <i>Lawyer, and Author of Phillips on Insurance, and other works</i> ; Vol. I.,	301
PICKENS, EZÉKIEL, of Selma, Alabama; <i>Lawyer and Planter</i> ; formerly Circuit Judge and Member of the Alabama Legislature; Vol. I.,	215


	PAGE
PIERCE, FRANKLIN, of Concord, New Hampshire; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; President of the United States; Vol. III.,	203
PILLOW, GIDEON J., of Columbia, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Major-General in the Mexican War; Vol. II.,	691
PIRTLE, HENRY, of Louisville, Kentucky; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Chancellor of the Louisville Chancery Court; Vol. II.,	731
POMEROY, NOAH, of Meriden, Connecticut; <i>Manufacturer</i> ; President of the Meriden Bank; Vol. I.,	243
POPE, JOHN, of Memphis, Tennessee; <i>Planter</i> ; President of the Union Bank; Vol. II.,	623
PRATT, O. C., of Portland, Oregon; <i>Jurist</i> ; formerly Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, in and for the Territory of Oregon; Vol. IV.,	56
PRENTISS, SAMUEL, of Montpelier, Vermont; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the United States District Court for Vermont; Vol. II.,	717
PRESCOTT, WILLIAM B., of Louisiana; <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. IV.,	378
PRINTUP, DANIEL S., of Rome, Georgia; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Agent for the Bank of the State of South Carolina; Vol. II.,	443
REEDER, ROBERT S., of Port Tobacco, Maryland; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; States' Attorney for Charles County, Maryland; Vol. IV.,	19
RICE, HARVEY, of Cleveland, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	42
ROSS, WILLIAM, of Pittsfield, Illinois; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. III.,	427
ROST, PIERRE A., of New Orleans, Louisiana; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Louisiana; Vol. I.,	121
ROTHWELL, ANDREW, of Washington, District of Columbia; <i>Author</i> , &c.; Vol. IV.,	279
ROWLAND, JOHN S., of Cass County, Georgia; <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. IV.,	266
RUSSELL, WM. J., of Lawrenceville, Georgia; <i>Physician</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. III.,	281
SAUNDERS, ISAAC, of North Scituate, Rhode Island; <i>Manufacturer</i> ; President of the Citizens' Union Bank; Vol. I.,	79
SCHAEFFER, EMANUEL, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania; <i>Jurist</i> ; President of the Lancaster Savings' Institute; Vol. IV.,	144
SCOTT, CHRISTOPHER C., of Camden, Arkansas; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. IV.,	287
SEAL, RODERICK, of Biloxi, Mississippi; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	294
SEIBELS, JOHN J., of Alabama; <i>Statesman</i> ; U. S. Minister Resident at Brussels; Vol. IV.,	458

	PAGE
SHELTON, GEORGE, of Rochester, <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. III.,	275
SILLIMAN, R. D., of Troy, New York; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. IV.,	59
SIMMONS, JAMES P., of Lawrenceville, Georgia; <i>Lawyer</i> , <i>Statesman</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. III.,	79
SIMON, EDWARD, Saint Martinsville, Louisiana; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. III.,	409
SISSON, DAVID, of Providence, Rhode Island; <i>Manufacturer</i> ; Vol. IV.,	103
SMITH, JOHN P., of Franklin, Connecticut; <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	346
SMITH, JOSEPH, of Waterbury, Connecticut; <i>Statesman</i> and <i>Clergyman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	379
SMITH, JOSEPH H., of Dover, New Hampshire; <i>Physician</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. III.,	45
SMITH, WILLIAM R., of Fayette, C. H., Alabama; Member of Congress; Vol. I.,	207
SNYDER, JACOB R., of San Francisco, California; <i>Statesman</i> ; U. S. Assistant Treasurer for California; Vol. IV.,	347
STARR, PARLEY, of Windham County, Vermont; <i>Physician</i> ; Vol. IV.,	475
TALLMADGE, DARIUS, of Lancaster, Ohio; <i>Financier</i> ; Presi- dent of the Hocking Valley Bank; Vol. I.,	295
TAYLOR, JOHN, of Albany, New York; <i>Merchant</i> and <i>Manu- facturer</i> ; Vol. IV.,	64
TAYLOR, WILLIAM, of Findlay, Ohio; <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	434
TEALL, OLIVER, of Syracuse, New York; <i>Manufacturer</i> and <i>Financier</i> ; President of the Onondaga County Bank; Vol. I.,	101
TOLAND, HUGH H., of San Francisco, California; <i>Physi- cian</i> ; Vol. IV.,	388
TOWSON, NATHAN, of Maryland; [deceased;] late <i>Paymas- ter-General of the U. S. Army</i> ; Vol. III.,	95
TRAIN, ASA W., of Milford, Connecticut; <i>Clergyman</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. III.,	455
TURNER, JESSE, of Van Buren, Arkansas; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. I.,	235
VAN ANTWERP, VERPLANCK, of Keokuk, Iowa; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. III.,	337
WALBRIDGE, HIRAM, of New York; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Member of the Thirty-third Congress; Vol. IV.,	365
WALKER, HENRY C., of Memphis, Tennessee; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. IV.,	160
WALKER, THOMAS A., of Jacksonville, Alabama; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the Circuit Court for the Fifth Circuit; Vol. I.,	225
WALLIS, JOHN C., of Chapel Hill, Texas; Vol. IV.,	373

	PAGE
WALWORTH, REuben, of Saratoga Springs, New York; the last of the New York Chancellors; Vol. II., . . .	487
WARD, MARCUS L., of Newark, New Jersey; Vol. IV., . . .	68
WARNER, HIRAM, of Greenville, Georgia; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the Supreme Court of Georgia; Vol. I., . . .	255
WARREN, LOTT, of Albany, Georgia; <i>Lawyer</i> ; formerly Judge of the Superior Court; Vol. II., . . .	747
WASHINGTON, W. H., of Newbern, North Carolina; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. III., . . .	359
WHEELER, ALFRED, of San Francisco, California; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Attorney for the United States in California; Vol. II., . . .	435
WHITE, JOHN BLAKE, of Charleston, South Carolina; <i>Lawyer, Author and Planter</i> ; Vol. IV., . . .	306
WHITE, JOHN J., of Sumner County, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV., . . .	34
WHITE, PHILO, of Wisconsin; <i>Editor and Statesman</i> ; U. S. Minister, resident at Quito, South America; Vol. IV., . . .	398
WHITTEMORE, THOMAS, of Cambridge, Massachusetts; <i>Clergyman and Financier, Editor and Author</i> ; Presi- dent of the Cambridge Bank; Vol. I., . . .	135
WILLIAMS, ARCHIBALD, of Quincy, Illinois; <i>Lawyer</i> ; for- merly U. S. Attorney for the State; Vol. II., . . .	679
WILSON, DANIEL A., of Lynchburgh, Virginia; <i>Lawyer</i> ; formerly one of the Judges of the General Court of Virginia; Vol. II., . . .	429
WILSON, JOEL W., of Tiffin, Ohio; <i>Lawyer and Statesman</i> ; Vol. III., . . .	447
WOODRUFF, EDWARD, of Cincinnati, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the first Judicial District of the State of Ohio; Vol. IV., . . .	260
WOODSON, DAVID M., of Carrolton, Illinois; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the First Circuit Court; Vol. II., . . .	681
WOODWARD, JOHN L., of Culloden, Georgia; <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. IV., . . .	116

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duties, but by subordinating them to avarice, he will lose his business and character without in the end obtaining the riches thus viciously pursued.

A politician who interests himself usefully in public matters will obtain official station as an incident of his usefulness; but should he make office the motive of his political conduct, he will be as often uselessly busy as actively useful, and give offence by officiousness rather than gain favor by usefulness. So, an officer who discharges faithfully his public duties will obtain popularity as an incident of his faithfulness; but should he pursue popularity as the object of his actions, he will not, necessarily, discharge faithfully his duties, but will subordinate them to his popularity, and so waver in his conduct and fluctuate in his sentiments as to fail in reaching the desired end. A physician who skillfully performs his practice will obtain celebrity and patronage as incidents of his skill; but should he pursue celebrity and patronage as motives, he will magnify slight ailments, that he may obtain the merit of achieving astonishing recoveries. He will publish miraculous cures which never occurred, and he will be condemned rather than obtain patronage and celebrity.

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 See following pages for Table of Contents of the four volumes.

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CONTENTS OF VOLUMES I, II, III. AND IV.

NAMES OF SUBJECTS CLASSIFIED ALPHABETICALLY.

	PAGE
ALCORN, JAMES L., of Coahoma Co., Mississippi; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	106
ALLEN, STEPHEN M., of Boston, Massachusetts; <i>Merchant</i> and <i>Banker</i> ; Vol. III.,	57
ANDERSON, SAMUEL, of Murfreesboro', Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the Circuit Court for the Fifth Circuit; Vol. II.,	419
ANSPACH, JOHN, JUNIOR, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. III.,	309
AMONETT, JAMES J., of Richmond, Louisiana; <i>Statesman</i> and <i>Jurist</i> ; Vol. IV.,	32
AYER, RICHARD H., of Manchester, New Hampshire; <i>Manufacturer</i> ; [deceased;] late President of the Amoskeag Bank; Vol. I.,	113
BADGER, LUTHER, of Binghamton, New York; <i>Lawyer</i> ; formerly a Member of Congress; Vol. II.,	595
BARBEE, WILLIAM, of Troy, Ohio; <i>Statesman</i> and <i>Jurist</i> ; Vol. IV.,	125
BARNARD, WILLIAM T., of Issaquena County, Mississippi; <i>Planter</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	149
BARRINGER, DANIEL M., of Cabarras County, North Carolina; <i>Lawyer</i> ; formerly Member of the United States Congress, and Minister to the Court of Spain; Vol. I.,	51
BASH, HENRY M., of Baltimore, Maryland; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. III.,	431
BATTLE, WILLIAM H., of Chapel Hill, North Carolina; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the Superior Court; Vol. II.,	771
BAXTER, ELI H., of Sparta, Georgia; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Jurist</i> ; formerly Judge of the Supreme Court; Vol. III.,	285
BELL, MONTGOMERY, of Williamson County, Tennessee; <i>Iron Manufacturer</i> ; Vol. IV.,	275

	PAGE
BIDDLE, HORACE P., of Logansport, Indiana; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Author</i> ; President Judge of the Eighth Judicial Circuit; Vol. I.,	257
BIERCE, LUCIUS V., of Akron, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> , <i>Statesman</i> and <i>Soldier</i> ; Vol. III.,	247
BOTTUM, NATHAN H., of Shaftesbury, Vermont; <i>Jurist</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	286
BOWLES, JOSHUA B., of Louisville, Kentucky; <i>Financier</i> ; President of the Bank of Louisville; Vol. II.	645
BOWMAN, JAMES L., of Brownsville, Pennsylvania; <i>Mer-</i> <i>chant</i> ; President of the Monongahela Bank; Vol. I.,	357
BOUTELLE, TIMOTHY, of Waterville, Maine; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. III.,	41
BRIERLY, BENJAMIN, of San Francisco, California; <i>Clergy-</i> <i>man</i> ; Vol. IV.,	427
BRIGHAM, JOSIAH, of Quincy, Massachusetts; <i>Merchant</i> ; President of the Quincy Stone Bank; Vol. I.,	31
BRISBANE, A. H., of Charleston, South Carolina; <i>Soldier</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. III.,	317
BROOKS, CHARLES, of Medford, Massachusetts; <i>Author</i> and <i>Clergyman</i> ; Vol. III.,	257
BROOKS, NATHAN C., of Baltimore, Maryland; <i>Author</i> and <i>Teacher</i> ; Vol. III.,	161
BROWN, AARON V., of Nashville, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Governor of Tennessee, and Member of Congress; Vol. I.,	89
BROWN, EDWIN R., of Gallatin, Mississippi; <i>Planter</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	320
BROWN, SAMUEL A., of Jamestown, New York; <i>Lawyer</i> ; formerly Member of the New York Assembly; Vol. I.	53
BROWN, WILLIAM G., of Kingwood, Virginia; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. III.,	333
BULLOCK, WILLIAM F., of Louisville, Kentucky; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the Circuit Court for the Sixth Circuit; Vol. I.,	283
BURNET, JACOB, of Cincinnati, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late United States Senator, and Judge of the Supreme Court of Ohio; Vol. I.,	265
CALHOUN, JAMES M., of Atlanta, Georgia; <i>Lawyer</i> , <i>States-</i> <i>man</i> and <i>Soldier</i> ; Vol. IV.,	52
CAMPBELL, DAVID, of Newark, New Jersey; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. IV.,	72
CAMPBELL, JAMES, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Postmaster-General; Vol. III.,	239
CAMPBELL, JOHN C., of Wheeling, Virginia; <i>Physician</i> ; President of the Northwestern Bank of Virginia; Vol. I.,	161
CATCHINGS, THOMAS J., of Hinds County, Mississippi; <i>Phy-</i> <i>sician</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	281

	PAGE
CATRON, JOHN, of Nashville, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; Vol. II., . . .	805
CHAMBERLAIN, EBENEZER M., of Goshen, Indiana; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Member of Thirty-third Congress; Vol. IV.,	150
CHAPMAN, JOHN BUTLER, of Oberlin, Ohio; <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	436
CHAPMAN, JOHN GRANT, of Glen Albin, Maryland; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. IV.,	252
CHRISTY, WILLIAM, of New Orleans, Louisiana; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Soldier</i> ; Vol. III.,	375
CHURCH, LEONARD, of Lee, Massachusetts; <i>Paper Manufacturer</i> ; President of the Lee Bank; Vol. I.,	35
CLARK, LINCOLN, of Du Buque, Iowa; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	155
CLARKE, WILLIAM B., of Hagerstown, Maryland; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Member of the House of Delegates in 1844, and Senate in 1846; Vol. I.,	299
CLAY, JOHN RANDOLPH, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; <i>Diplomatist</i> ; Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to Peru, South America; Vol. I.,	133
CLEVELAND, ELIJAH, of Irasburg, Vermont; <i>Jurist</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	145
COALE, JAMES M., of Frederick, Maryland; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. III.,	299
COLT, JAMES B., of St. Louis, Missouri; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Judge of the Criminal Court of St. Louis; Vol. I.,	149
CONVERSE, E. A., of Tolland, Connecticut; <i>Banker</i> and <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. III.,	91
COOPER, DAVID, of St. Paul, Minesota; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Jurist</i> ; formerly Judge of the Supreme Court of Minesota; Vol. IV.,	15
COOPWOOD, THOMAS, of Aberdeen, Mississippi; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. II.,	631
COTHREN, WILLIAM, of Woodbury, Connecticut; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Author</i> ; Vol. IV.,	391
COXE, RICHARD S., of Washington, District of Columbia; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. I.,	247
CRAWFORD, JOEL, of Early County, Georgia; <i>Lawyer</i> , <i>Statesman</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. III.,	177
CREY, FREDERICK, of Baltimore, Maryland; Vol. III. . . .	433
CROSKEY, JOSEPH R. K., of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; U. S. Consul at Southampton, England; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. IV.,	297
CULLOM, E. NORTH, of Opelousas, Louisiana; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Member of the House of Representatives of Louisiana; Vol. IV.,	360

	PAGE
CULVER, REUBEN, of Logan, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> ; President of the Logan Branch Bank; Vol. I.,	95
CUSHING, CALEB, of Newburyport, Massachusetts; <i>Lawyer, Soldier and Statesman</i> ; Attorney-General for the United States; Vol. III.,	243
CUSHMAN, HENRY W., of Bernardston, Massachusetts; <i>Statesman</i> ; formerly Lieutenant Governor; Vol. III.,	29
CUTLER, PLINY, of Boston, Massachusetts; <i>Merchant</i> ; President of the Atlantic Bank; Vol. I.,	327
DARBY, JOHN F., of St. Louis, Missouri; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Member of the Thirty-second Congress; Vol. I.,	333
DAVIS, CHARLES D., of Monroe, Georgia; <i>Lawyer and Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	134
DAVIS, D. A., of Salisbury, North Carolina; <i>Banker</i> ; Cashier of the Branch of the Bank of Cape Fear; Vol. IV.,	130
DAVIS, JEFFERSON, of Mississippi; <i>Soldier, Planter and Statesman</i> ; Secretary of War; Vol. III.,	235
DAY, JOSEPH, of Jones County, Georgia; <i>Jurist and Planter</i> ; Vol. IV.,	238
DEAN, GILBERT, of Poughkeepsie, New York; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Member of Congress; now Judge of New York Supreme Court; Vol. I.,	339
DEAN, HOSEA J., of Spartanburg, South Carolina; <i>Lawyer and Planter</i> ; Clerk of the House of Representatives of South Carolina; Vol. IV.,	5
DEFORD, BENJAMIN, of Baltimore, Maryland; <i>Manufacturer and Merchant</i> ; Vol. IV.,	143
DE FOREST, RICHARD, of Rochester, New York; <i>Clergyman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	223
DEVENS, DAVID, of Charlestown, Massachusetts; <i>Merchant</i> ; President of the Bunker Hill Bank; Vol. I.,	21
DE WITT, ALEXANDER, of Oxford, Massachusetts; <i>Financier and Politician</i> ; President of the Mechanics' Bank at Worcester; Member of the Thirty-third Congress; Vol. I.,	315
DEXTER, S. NEWTON, of Whitestown, New York; <i>Merchant and Banker</i> ; President of the Bank of Whitestown; Vol. II.,	819
DICKERSON, CORNELIUS S., of Dover, New Jersey; <i>Farmer and Banker</i> ; Vol. IV.,	253
DIFFENDERFFER, HENRY, of Baltimore, Maryland; <i>Author</i> ; Vol. IV.,	343
DIXON, ABCHIBALD, of Henderson, Kentucky; <i>Lawyer</i> ; United States Senator; Vol. II.,	737
DOBBIN, JAMES C., of Fayetteville, North Carolina; <i>Lawyer and Statesman</i> ; Secretary of the Navy; Vol. III.,	65

	PAGE
DOBBINS, MILES G., of Griffin, Georgia; <i>Financier</i> ; Agent Bank State of Georgia; Vol. IV.,	114
DOBYNS, JOHN PORTER, of Maysville, Kentucky; <i>Merchant</i> ; President of the Maysville Branch of the Farmers' Bank of Kentucky; Vol. I.,	7
DOWDELL, JAMES F., of Lafayette, Alabama; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Member of the Thirty-third Congress; Vol. IV.,	1
DOWNES, GEORGE, of Calais, Maine; <i>Financier</i> ; President of the Calais Bank; Vol. I.,	239
DUFFEE, FRANCIS H., of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; <i>Banker</i> ; Member of the Select Council of Philadelphia; Vol. IV.,	169
DUTTON, HENRY, of New Haven, Connecticut; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Professor of Law in Yale College; Governor of Connecticut; Vol. II.,	687
EAVES, NATHANIEL R., of Chesterville, South Carolina; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Member of the Senate of South Carolina; Vol. II.,	597
EDDY, ZECHARIAH, of Middleboro', Massachusetts; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. III.,	5
EDMONDS, JOHN W., of New York; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Judge of the Supreme Court of New York; Vol. II.,	797
EMMONS, H. H., of Detroit, Michigan; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. II.,	451
EVERHART, WILLIAM, of West Chester, Pennsylvania; <i>Statesman</i> ; Member of the Thirty-third Congress; Vol. IV.,	471
EVERITT, ABRAHAM, of South Amboy, New Jersey; <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	139
FARRAR, EDWIN, of Richmond, Virginia; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. IV.,	161
FINLAYSON, JOHN, of Jefferson County, Florida; <i>Planter</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. III.,	453
FISHER, GEORGE, of San Francisco, California; <i>Editor</i> , &c.; now Secretary of the Californian Land Commission; Vol. III.,	441
FOGG, FRANCIS BRINLEY, of Nashville, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Member of the State Constitutional Convention of Tennessee, in 1834; Vol. II.,	667
FONTAINE, EDMUND, of Richmond, Virginia; <i>Soldier</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; President of the Virginia Central Rail-Road; Vol. IV.,	163
FOSTER, LAFAYETTE S., of Norwich, Connecticut; <i>Lawyer</i> ; formerly Mayor of Norwich, and Speaker of the Connecticut House of Representatives; U. S. Senator; Vol. I.,	1
FLETCHER, ELIJAH, of Amherst, Virginia; <i>Planter</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	15

FREELON, THOMAS W., of San Francisco, California; <i>Lawyer</i> ; County Judge; Vol. IV.,	425
FULLER, HENRY H., of Boston, Massachusetts, <i>Lawyer</i> ; (deceased since the publication of his memoir;) Vol. I.,	173
GARLAND, HUGH A., of St. Louis, Missouri; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Author</i> ; Vol. II.,	657
GEORGE, ROBERT, of Scroggsfield, Ohio; Vol. IV.	502
GILMER, JOHN A., of Guilford County, North Carolina; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. I.,	343
GOODWYN, ROBERT H., of Columbia, South Carolina; <i>Physician</i> , <i>Financier</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; President of the Bank of the State of South Carolina; Vol. I.,	193
GORDON, GEORGE H., of Woodville, Mississippi; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Delegate to the Democratic Convention, 1852; Vol. I.,	45
GOTT, JAMES R., of Rockport, Massachusetts; <i>Banker</i> ; Vol. III.,	54
GOULD, JACOB, of Rochester, New York; <i>Merchant</i> ; formerly United States Marshal for the Northern District of New York; now President of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank; Vol. I.,	75
GOVE, CHARLES F., of Nashua, New Hampshire; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	242
GRACE, WILLIAM P., of Pine Bluff, Arkansas; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. I.,	323
GRAVES, CALVIN, of Locust Hill, North Carolina; <i>Lawyer</i> ; formerly Speaker of the House of Commons; Vol. I.,	187
GRIDLEY, ALBERT GALLATIN, of Clinton, New York; <i>Merchant</i> and <i>Banker</i> ; President of the Kirkland Bank; Vol. I.,	63
GRIER, ROBERT COOPER, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; Vol. II.,	813
GRISWOLD, HIRAM, of Cleveland, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Reporter for the Supreme Court; Vol. I.,	373
GUTHRIE, JAMES, of Louisville, Kentucky; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Secretary of the Treasury; Vol. III.,	223
HALDEMAN, S. S., of Columbia, Pennsylvania; <i>Author</i> ; Vol. IV.,	88
HALL, SAMUEL, of Princeton, Indiana; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Farmer</i> ; formerly Lieutenant-Governor of Indiana; Vol. I.,	259
HALL, WILLARD, of Wilmington, Delaware; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the United States District Court for Delaware; Vol. II.,	421
HAMILTON, ALLEN, of Fort Wayne, Indiana; <i>Financier</i> ; President of the Branch Bank at Fort Wayne; Vol. I.,	275

	PAGE
HANLY, THOMAS BURKE, of Helena, Arkansas; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. IV.,	445
HARPER, JOSEPH M., of Concord, New Hampshire; <i>Physi- cian</i> ; President of the Mechanics' Bank; Vol. I.,	107
HARRINGTON, SAMUEL MAXWELL, LL. D. of Dover, Del- aware; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Author</i> ; Justice Superior Court; President of the Delaware Rail-Road; Vol. I.,	129
HARRIS, JAMES C., of Wetumpka, Alabama; <i>Physician</i> ; Vol. IV.,	110
HARRIS, THOMAS, of Washington, District of Columbia; <i>Physician</i> ; formerly Chief of Bureau of Medicine and Surgery; Vol. IV.,	176
HAYNE, ISAAC W., of Charleston, South Carolina; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Attorney-General for the State of South Carolina; Vol. I.,	383
HAYT, SAMUEL A., of Fishkill, New York; <i>Banker</i> and <i>Mer- chant</i> ; President Fishkill Bank; Vol. III.,	365
HITCHCOCK, PETER, (deceased,) late of Painesville, Ohio; <i>Jurist</i> ; for many years Chief Justice of Ohio; Vol. III.,	183
HOGG, JOSEPH L., of Rusk, Texas; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	227
HOOD, CHARLES C., of Somerset, Ohio; <i>Jurist</i> ; Vol. IV., .	273
HOWARD, W. G., of Rochester, New York; <i>Clergyman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	63
HOYT, HIRAM, of Syracuse, New York; <i>Physician</i> ; Vol. IV.,	75
HUBBS, PAUL K., of Benicia, California; <i>Merchant</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Superintendent of Public instruction in California; Vol. IV.,	271
HUMPHREYS, WEST H., of Nashville, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge U. S. District Court; Vol. II.,	829
HUNT, BENJAMIN F., of Charleston, South Carolina; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. II.,	401
JANUARY, ANDREW M., of Maysville, Kentucky; <i>Merchant</i> ; President of the Maysville Branch of the Bank of Ken- tucky; Vol. II.,	445
JONES, LAZARUS J., of Paulding, Mississippi; <i>Planter</i> and <i>Author</i> ; Vol. IV.,	328
KEITH, CHARLES F., of Athens, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Judge of the Circuit Court for the Third Cir- cuit; Vol. II.,	763
KNAPP, ISAAC, of Freemont, Ohio; <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV., .	120
KNOWLES, JOHN A., of Lowell, Massachusetts; <i>Lawyer</i> ; President of the Appleton Bank; Vol. II.,	727
KOCK, CHARLES, of New Orleans, Louisiana; <i>Planter</i> and <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. III.,	407
LABAUVE, ZENON, of Plaquemine, Louisiana; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Member of the Louisiana State Senate; Vol. I.,	11

	PAGE
LANDES, JOHN, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania; <i>Farmer</i> ; President of the Lancaster County Bank; Vol. II., . . .	629
L'AMOREAUX, JAMES, of Albany, New York; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Jurist</i> ; Vol. IV.,	12
LAWRENCE, WILLIAM, of Bellefontaine, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Member of the State Legislature, and Supreme Court Reporter; Vol. I.,	365
LAYTON, WILLIAM E., of Newark, New Jersey; <i>Statesman</i> ; Member Board of Council of Newark; Vol. IV., . . .	231
LEE, OLIVER H., of New York; <i>Engineer</i> ; Vol. III., . . .	271
LONG, STEPHEN H., Lieut. Colonel United States Topographical Engineers; Vol. IV.,	477
LUMPKIN, JOSEPH HENRY, of Athens, Georgia; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia; Vol. II., . .	757
MANN, HORACE, of Yellow Springs, Ohio; <i>Author</i> ; President of Antioch College, at Yellow Springs, Ohio; Vol. IV.,	178
MARCHBANKS, ANDREW J., of McMinnville, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the Circuit Court for the 13th Circuit; Vol. II.,	563
MARCY, WILLIAM L., of Albany, New York; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Secretary of State; Vol. III., . . .	215
MARSHAL, BENJAMIN, of Troy, New York; <i>Merchant</i> and <i>Manufacturer</i> ; Vol. III.,	1
MARSH, MULFORD, of Savannah, Georgia; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. I.,	289
MASON, WILLIAM, of Taunton, Massachusetts; <i>Manufacturer</i> ; President of the Machinists' Bank; Vol. I., . . .	13
MEEKER, BRADLEY B., of St. Paul's, Minesota; late Justice of the Supreme Court of Minesota; Vol. I.,	319
MERRICK, PLINY, of Worcester, Massachusetts; Justice of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts; Vol. I.,	39
MILLS, WILLIAM H., of Bangor, Maine; <i>Financier</i> ; formerly Mayor of Bangor; Cashier of the Eastern Bank; Vol. II.,	665
MINER, HIRAM J., of Fredonia, New York; <i>Merchant</i> and <i>Financier</i> ; President of H. J. M.'s Bank; Vol. II., . .	509
MONKUR, J. C. S., of Baltimore, Maryland; <i>Physician</i> , <i>Professor</i> , &c., in the Washington University; Vol. III., . .	435
MOODY, DEXTER, of Troy, New York; <i>Builder</i> ; Vol. IV., .	284
MORELAND, JOHN F., of Heard County, Georgia; <i>Physician</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. III.,	289
MCCLELLAND, ROBERT, of Lansing, Michigan; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Secretary of the Interior; Vol. III., . . .	231
McCLURE, WILLIAM B., of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for the 5th District; Vol. I.,	381

	PAGE
McDUGALD, JOHN G., of Elizabethtown, North Carolina; <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	335
McHENRY, JOHN H., of Hartford, Kentucky; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. III.,	413
McKAY, DONALD L., of Georgetown, South Carolina; <i>Banker and Planter</i> ; Vol. III.,	21
McLEAN, JOHN, of Cincinnati, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; Vol. II.,	789
MUNN, IRA Y., of Woodford Co., Illinois; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. IV.,	355
NASH, JOHN W., of Powhattan, Virginia; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of Second Circuit Court; Vol. II.,	577
NELSON, THOMAS, of Oregon City, Oregon; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Chief Justice of Oregon; Vol. II.,	559
NORTON, GEORGE W., of Russellville, Kentucky; <i>Merchant</i> ; President of the Southern Bank of Kentucky; Vol. II.,	575
ORR, JAMES L., of Anderson, C. H., South Carolina; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Member of Congress; Vol. II.,	393
OVERTON, ARCHIBALD W., of Carthage, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer and Planter</i> ; formerly on the Bench; Vol. II.,	565
OWEN, C. M., of Stockbridge, Massachusetts; <i>Banker</i> ; Vol. IV.,	291
PADDOCK, LOVLAND, of Watertown, New York; <i>Merchant and Financier</i> ; President of the Black River Bank; Vol. I.,	67
PARKER, WILLIAM, of Boston, Massachusetts; <i>Lawyer and Merchant</i> ; President of the Boylston Bank; Vol. I.,	23
PARKHURST, NATHAN C., of Pontiac, Michigan; <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	341
PATTERSON, ANGUS, of Barnwell District, South Carolina; <i>Lawyer and Planter</i> ; [deceased;] late President of the State Senate; Vol. I.,	387
PEABODY, GEORGE, of Danvers, Massachusetts; <i>Banker and Merchant in London</i> ; Vol. III.,	137
PERRY, BENJAMIN F., of Greenville, South Carolina; <i>Lawyer and Planter</i> ; Vol. II.,	581
PERRY, HORATIO J., of New Hampshire; <i>Statesman</i> ; Secretary U. S. Legation, at Madrid; Vol. IV.,	448
PETERS, FREDERICK G., of Nelson County, Virginia; <i>Physician and Planter</i> ; Vol. III.,	255
PHILLIPS, WILLARD, of Boston, Massachusetts; <i>Lawyer, and Author of Phillips on Insurance, and other works</i> ; Vol. I.,	301
PICKENS, EZEKIEL, of Selma, Alabama; <i>Lawyer and Planter</i> ; formerly Circuit Judge and Member of the Alabama Legislature; Vol. I.,	215


	PAGE
PIERCE, FRANKLIN, of Concord, New Hampshire; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; President of the United States; Vol. III.,	203
PILLOW, GIDEON J., of Columbia, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Major-General in the Mexican War; Vol. II.,	691
PIRTLE, HENRY, of Louisville, Kentucky; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Chancellor of the Louisville Chancery Court; Vol. II.,	731
POMEROY, NOAH, of Meriden, Connecticut; <i>Manufacturer</i> ; President of the Meriden Bank; Vol. I.,	243
POPE, JOHN, of Memphis, Tennessee; <i>Planter</i> ; President of the Union Bank; Vol. II.,	623
PRATT, O. C., of Portland, Oregon; <i>Jurist</i> ; formerly Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, in and for the Territory of Oregon; Vol. IV.,	56
PRENTISS, SAMUEL, of Montpelier, Vermont; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the United States District Court for Vermont; Vol. II.,	717
PRESCOTT, WILLIAM B., of Louisiana; <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. IV.,	378
PRINTUP, DANIEL S., of Rome, Georgia; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Agent for the Bank of the State of South Carolina; Vol. II.,	443
REEDER, ROBERT S., of Port Tobacco, Maryland; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; States' Attorney for Charles County, Maryland; Vol. IV.,	19
RICE, HARVEY, of Cleveland, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	42
ROSS, WILLIAM, of Pittsfield, Illinois; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. III.,	427
ROST, PIERRE A., of New Orleans, Louisiana; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Louisiana; Vol. I.,	121
ROTHWELL, ANDREW, of Washington, District of Columbia; <i>Author</i> , &c.; Vol. IV.,	279
ROWLAND, JOHN S., of Cass County, Georgia; <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. IV.,	266
RUSSELL, WM. J., of Lawrenceville, Georgia; <i>Physician</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. III.,	281
SAUNDERS, ISAAC, of North Scituate, Rhode Island; <i>Manufacturer</i> ; President of the Citizens' Union Bank; Vol. I.,	79
SCHAEFFER, EMANUEL, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania; <i>Jurist</i> ; President of the Lancaster Savings' Institute; Vol. IV.,	144
SCOTT, CHRISTOPHER C., of Camden, Arkansas; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. IV.,	287
SEAL, RODERICK, of Biloxi, Mississippi; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	294
SEIBELS, JOHN J., of Alabama; <i>Statesman</i> ; U. S. Minister Resident at Brussels; Vol. IV.,	458

SHELTON, GEORGE, of Rochester, New York; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. III.,	275
SILLIMAN, R. D., of Troy, New York; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. IV., .	59
SIMMONS, JAMES P., of Lawrenceville, Georgia; <i>Lawyer</i> , <i>Statesman</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. III.,	79
SIMON, EDWARD, Saint Martinsville, Louisiana; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. III.,	409
SISSON, DAVID, of Providence, Rhode Island; <i>Manufacturer</i> ; Vol. IV.,	103
SMITH, JOHN P., of Franklin, Connecticut; <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	346
SMITH, JOSEPH, of Waterbury, Connecticut; <i>Statesman</i> and <i>Clergyman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	379
SMITH, JOSEPH H., of Dover, New Hampshire; <i>Physician</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. III.,	45
SMITH, WILLIAM R., of Fayette, C. H., Alabama; Member of Congress; Vol. I.,	207
SNYDER, JACOB R., of San Francisco, California; <i>Statesman</i> ; U. S. Assistant Treasurer for California; Vol. IV., .	347
STARR, PARLEY, of Windham County, Vermont; <i>Physician</i> ; Vol. IV.,	475
TALLMADGE, DARIUS, of Lancaster, Ohio; <i>Financier</i> ; Presi- dent of the Hocking Valley Bank; Vol. I.,	295
TAYLOR, JOHN, of Albany, New York; <i>Merchant</i> and <i>Manu- facturer</i> ; Vol. IV.,	64
TAYLOR, WILLIAM, of Findlay, Ohio; <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV.,	434
TEALL, OLIVER, of Syracuse, New York; <i>Manufacturer</i> and <i>Financier</i> ; President of the Onondaga County Bank; Vol. I.,	101
TOLAND, HUGH H., of San Francisco, California; <i>Physi- cian</i> ; Vol. IV.,	388
TOWSON, NATHAN, of Maryland; [deceased;] late <i>Paymas- ter-General of the U. S. Army</i> ; Vol. III.,	95
TRAIN, ASA W., of Milford, Connecticut; <i>Clergyman</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. III.,	455
TURNER, JESSE, of Van Buren, Arkansas; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Vol. I., .	235
VAN ANTWERP, VERPLANCK, of Keokuk, Iowa; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. III.,	337
WALBRIDGE, HIRAM, of New York; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Member of the Thirty-third Congress; Vol. IV., . . .	365
WALKER, HENRY C., of Memphis, Tennessee; <i>Merchant</i> ; Vol. IV.,	160
WALKER, THOMAS A., of Jacksonville, Alabama; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the Circuit Court for the Fifth Circuit; Vol. I.,	225
WALLIS, JOHN C., of Chapel Hill, Texas; Vol. IV.,	373

	PAGE
WALWORTH, REUBEN H., of Saratoga Springs, New York; the last of the New York Chancellors; Vol. II., . . .	487
WARD, MARCUS L., of Newark, New Jersey; Vol. IV., . . .	68
WARNER, HIRAM, of Greenville, Georgia; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the Supreme Court of Georgia; Vol. I., . . .	255
WARREN, LOTT, of Albany, Georgia; <i>Lawyer</i> ; formerly Judge of the Superior Court; Vol. II., . . .	747
WASHINGTON, W. H., of Newbern, North Carolina; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. III., . . .	359
WHEELER, ALFRED, of San Francisco, California; <i>Lawyer</i> ; late Attorney for the United States in California; Vol. II., . . .	435
WHITE, JOHN BLAKE, of Charleston, South Carolina; <i>Lawyer, Author and Planter</i> ; Vol. IV., . . .	306
WHITE, JOHN J., of Sumner County, Tennessee; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. IV., . . .	34
WHITE, PHILO, of Wisconsin; <i>Editor</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; U. S. Minister, resident at Quito, South America; Vol. IV., . . .	398
WHITTEMORE, THOMAS, of Cambridge, Massachusetts; <i>Clergyman and Financier, Editor and Author</i> ; Presi- dent of the Cambridge Bank; Vol. I., . . .	135
WILLIAMS, ARCHIBALD, of Quincy, Illinois; <i>Lawyer</i> ; for- merly U. S. Attorney for the State; Vol. II., . . .	679
WILSON, DANIEL A., of Lynchburgh, Virginia; <i>Lawyer</i> ; formerly one of the Judges of the General Court of Virginia; Vol. II., . . .	429
WILSON, JOEL W., of Tiffin, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> and <i>Statesman</i> ; Vol. III., . . .	447
WOODRUFF, EDWARD, of Cincinnati, Ohio; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the first Judicial District of the State of Ohio; Vol. IV., . . .	260
WOODSON, DAVID M., of Carrolton, Illinois; <i>Lawyer</i> ; Judge of the First Circuit Court; Vol. II., . . .	681
WOODWARD, JOHN L., of Culloden, Georgia; <i>Planter</i> ; Vol. IV., . . .	116

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dent of the Bank of Orleans, we believe it is no injustice to his associates to say, that the chief financial management of the institution has been confided to him, and in every exigency his fidelity and ability have never been questioned, and the result of his labors has always shown that the confidence reposed in him was not misplaced.

WILLIAM T. BARNARD,

OF ISSAQUENA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI,

WAS born September 10th, 1821, in Adams county, Mississippi. His parents were natives of the same place, both his grandfathers having emigrated there at an early date. His father dying when our subject was quite young, and he being the eldest of the family, the duties of the management of the estate devolved principally upon him. He was married to Miss Sarah Elhaney, of West Feliciana, Louisiana, at the age of 19. At the age of 20 years, by the advice and influence of friends, he was emancipated by the State Legislature, to enable him legally to take charge of his father's estate, it having become very much embarrassed. But by a few years of judicious and prudent management, greatly assisted by the high confidence placed in Mr. Barnard by the creditors, he succeeded in relieving the estate of all incumbrances. In the fall of 1847 he removed to Issaquena county, Mississippi, where he now resides, following his father's occupation of cotton planting. In the fall of 1851 he was elected member of the lower branch of the State Legislature.

EBENEZER M. CHAMBERLAIN,

OF INDIANA.

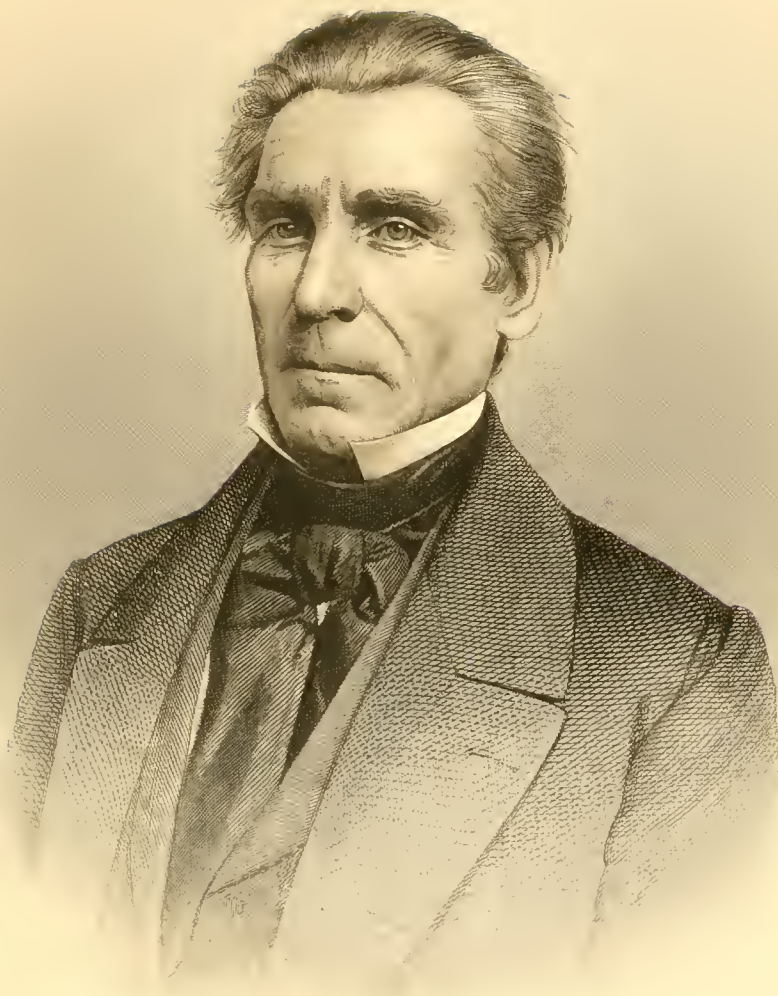
EBENEZER M. CHAMBERLAIN, formerly President Judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit in the State of Indiana, now a member of the XXXIVth Congress from the tenth Congressional district of the same State was, born in Orrington, Penobscot county, Maine, on the 20th August, 1805. His early education was limited to such as could be obtained under the New England system of common schools, and these privileges were only enjoyed in the winter season, when his labor on the farm could not be made available to the support of his father's family. At the age of sixteen he left the farm, and for six years wrought in a ship-yard, his father, according to the New England custom, receiving his earnings until the sun went down on the day he completed his minority.

After reaching his majority, he continued his labors in the ship-yard until he had realized a sufficient sum from his earnings to enable him to spend six months at an academy, after which he entered the office of Elisha H. Allen, Esq., of Bangor, as a student at law. He remained in this gentleman's office some three years, but his reading was necessarily much interrupted by the necessity of resorting to school-teaching to meet his current expenditures.

It was while he was a student at law in 1831 that the Sunday Mail question engrossed so much of the public attention. In January of that year the question was formally introduced for discussion in the Bangor Forensic Club, of which he was a member. He took a leading part in the discussion, and delivered two arguments against its prohibition, which were thought to evince so much ability and independence in the then peculiar and immature state of public sentiment on that question in puritanical New England, as to be thought worthy of publication by a goodly portion of the large audience who heard them. They were accordingly published in pamphlet form by those who coincided with them in sentiment, and extensively circulated.

The laws of Maine requiring a preliminary study of seven years to qualify the applicant for admission to the bar, Mr. Chamberlain, in consideration of his age and limited means, determined to emigrate to the young, more liberal and vigorous West. Accordingly, in June, 1832, solitary and alone, with a few dollars in his pocket, the proceeds of the last winter's school, he set his face for Indiana, and arrived in Fayette county in the month following. After replenishing his exhausted treasury by a resort to the Yankee's universal remedy, the common school, he entered the office of Samuel W. Parke, Esq., of Connersville, a gentleman of high legal attainments, and at the present writing a member of the lower house of Congress. Associated with him in this office was Andrew Kennedy, another self-made man, who was destined to run a brief but brilliant career. They were examined and admitted to the bar together on the 9th August, 1833.

In the fall of that year Mr. Chamberlain removed to Elkhart county,



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then just emerging from the condition of an unbroken wilderness, and commenced the practice of his profession. In the summer of 1835 he was elected one of the two representatives in the Legislature from the whole northern portion of Indiana, embracing a territory of nearly one fifth part of the entire State. In December of the same year he was examined and licensed by Judge Blackford and his associates, to practise at the bar of the Supreme Court of the State.

He was re-elected a representative in 1837, and occupied a prominent position on the committee to investigate the affairs and condition of the State Bank of Indiana.

On the 28th day of November, 1838, he was united in marriage to Phebe Ann Hascall, eldest daughter of Amasa Hascall, Esq., of Le Roy, New York, a lady pre-eminent for all those amiable qualities which adorn as they sanctify the domestic relations. In the summer of 1839 he was elected to the State Senate for a term of three years. During the stormy session of 1841, by request of the State Central Committee, he delivered an address before the Democratic State Convention on the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans. The address furnishes strong evidence of the high state of party spirit which then pervaded the Union. Commencing with the administration of Mr. Jefferson, he traced with a vigorous hand the history of the two great political parties down, through the second war with England, and through all the conflicts of party to that time, and was not over-choise in his denunciation of the opposition. President Van Buren had just been defeated in a conflict unparalleled for excitement, detraction, and abuse in the history of the country, and it was but natural that the speaker should regard him and his administration as proper subjects for eulogy.

We make a few extracts :

"The administration of Andrew Jackson formed an epoch in the history of this mighty republic, as did that of his great political model, Thomas Jefferson. Such vigor, however, had the Hydras and Gorgons of Federalism acquired by long feasting upon the very vitals of the Constitution, that they were not to be exterminated by one effort of Hercules. And as his successor, to carry out his measures, to perpetuate his principles, to finish the task of political regeneration which Jackson had so gloriously begun, the democracy of the country turned their eyes on that sworn enemy of Federalism, Martin Van Buren.

"Raised from obscurity to eminence by the unaided energies of his own great mind and unblemished moral worth, endeared to the democracy by his bold and manly vindication of our principles, and by his noble and unwavering devotion to his country, which, in times that tried men's souls, found deliverance in the wisdom and patriotism of his measures in her councils, when a Hull had betrayed, and a Harrison had abandoned her in the field—proscribed, hated, and vindictively hunted down by the Federal party, he was the man pre-eminently entitled to our confidence and support, and worthy of that high honor. With all his principles distinctly avowed, the honor was conferred. As chief magistrate of the nation, he neglected no duty, violated no pledge, betrayed no trust, disappointed no expectation, abandoned no principle, usurped no power, but in all things has been faithful, and adhered strictly to the simple, self-denying ordinances of the Constitution."

After denouncing the means and appliances resorted to in the campaign of 1840, and predicting the dissolution of the Whig party into its original elements, he closes with the following word of encouragement to his political friends :

“In all that we have seen, and all that as a party we have suffered, is there any cause of alarm or despair? No, my friends. The apparent success of our political opponents is but the more positive evidence of their final and more complete prostration. It is but the last unnatural effort, to which they have been stung by expiring agony, which but the more fearfully betokens their final dissolution. Does any one doubt their utter overthrow, at the expiration of four years' career of madness and folly, in the abuse of their ill-gotten power? Let those doubt who distrust the people, but wofully deceived are they who flatter themselves that we are about to surrender at discretion. Courage then, Democrats! Our principles are left us, if for a time our power is gone, and that, thank God, is the greater consolation of the two.”

The session of 1841 was one of unusual partisan violence. The whirlwind of 1840 had reduced the democratic strength in the Senate to thirteen members in a body of fifty—the Whigs having in fact a quorum in both branches of the Legislature. On all occasions during the discussion in the Senate of the measures which occupied the attention subsequently of the extra session of Congress, Mr. Chamberlain was the prominent debater on the Democratic side of the House, and if he failed in convincing his antagonists, he at least made his mark in the intellectual conflict, and encouraged the forlorn hope who recognised him as a leader. His labors on the committee of investigation of the management of the internal improvement system, and of the committee on corporations, will not soon be forgotten. He never permitted an act of incorporation to pass through his hands without an effort to require individual liability on the part of stockholders, and to reserve to the people, through their representatives, the right of amendment and repeal.

In 1842 he was elected by the Legislature Prosecuting Attorney of the Ninth Judicial Circuit.

In 1843 he was put in nomination for Congress in a district which, three years previous, had given an opposition majority of more than sixteen hundred votes; and after a laborious canvass succeeded in reducing that majority to less than three hundred.

In December of the same year he was elected by the Legislature President Judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit, and again without opposition was re-elected, upon the expiration of his term of office in January, 1851. Coming to the bench fresh from a series of political conflicts of unexampled bitterness, in which quarter was neither given nor demanded, he had to encounter prejudices of no ordinary character. These have all been buried and long since forgotten, and at this day no man occupying a similar position commands more of the confidence and esteem of the bar, and of parties litigant.

During his term upon the bench, although many cases of great importance have been brought before him, involving the rights, liberties, and lives of men, there have been few cases of appeal from his decisions, and still fewer reversals of them. His earnest endeavors to administer strict justice, his character for unbending integrity, and his clear exposi-

tions of law, have most generally satisfied contending parties of the correctness of his decisions.

Having been previously engaged somewhat actively in politics, immediately on his coming to the bench, Judge Chamberlain became the subject of the most unmeasured abuse of the Whig press, and a portion of the party, in some of the counties of the circuit. In view of this fact, at the close of the first term of his court in Laporte county, the entire bar in attendance at that term, sixteen in number, and without distinction of party, addressed to him the following note :—

“*Laporte, March 14, 1844.*”

“HON. E. M. CHAMBERLAIN—Dear Sir: The undersigned, members of the bar of the Ninth Judicial Circuit of the State of Indiana, having seen with regret the attacks made upon you, in the *Laporte County Whig* of the 9th, and the *Michigan City Gazette* of the 11th inst., deem it but an act of justice to say, that since you took upon yourself the high and responsible duties of President Judge of this circuit, your course, as such judge, has been highly creditable to yourself, and satisfactory to us; and that the dignified, courteous, and gentlemanly manner in which you have discharged those duties, evinces the capacity as well as desire to perform them with honor to yourself and credit to the bench.

“With sentiments of esteem and respect we remain yours, &c.”

The associate judges of that court, both Whigs, upon the same occasion, also addressed to him the following note :—

“HON. E. M. CHAMBERLAIN—Dear Sir: We, the associate judges in Laporte county, do with great pleasure acknowledge the courteous, urbane, gentlemanly, and efficient manner in which you, sir, have discharged the arduous and responsible duties of President Judge, and the pleasure of an association with you.

“With cordial and unfeigned desires for your peace and prosperity, we subscribe ourselves, &c.”

Precisely the feelings of mutual courtesy and respect, above indicated, remained unabated during the nine years he presided over the courts of that circuit.

He has prominently participated in political matters in but two instances, since his election to the bench. In 1844 he was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention, was a member of the committee on resolutions, and as such, sought to make an issue with the opposition on the principles and policy of Thomas Wilson Dorr, of Rhode Island.

In 1848 he was one of the Senatorial candidates for Presidential Elector, canvassed the State very generally, except in his own judicial circuit, and aided materially in giving the vote of the State to General Lewis Cass.

He was also a candidate before the nominating caucus in 1845, for United States Senator, and on being defeated, made this memorable reply to all overtures still to remain a candidate: “As Democrats we must sustain our party for the sake of our principles, and must sustain our principles for the sake of our country.”

The result of the congressional election of 1851, in the 10th district of Indiana, much disconcerted and disheartened the Democrats of that district. Their candidate, Judge Borden, was defeated by a large majority, by Mr. Brenton, the Whig candidate. By the apportionment under the census of 1850, the districts were so changed as to strike off several counties from the southern part of the 10th, and incorporate into it from the 9th the counties of Elkhart and Kosciusko, in the former of which Judge Chamberlain resides. On the 11th day of August, 1852, the time of holding the elections having also been changed, the Democratic Congressional Convention of the 10th district was held, at which convention Judge Chamberlain, as the published proceedings show, "was unanimously nominated for Congress, by acclamation." As an index to the spirit of harmony and zeal by which the convention was characterized and animated, we quote the following additional extract from its published proceedings:—

"Mr. Chamberlain was then presented to the convention, and after the applause with which he was greeted had subsided, he accepted his nomination, and returned his thanks, in a brief and eloquent address." He remarked, among other things, that in the then opening campaign, whatever course his competitor might choose to pursue, the contest on his part should be purely a contest of principle; that he would stoop to none of the tricks of the demagogue; that in canvassing the district, he should only ask the people for their votes, and expect to receive them as he might succeed in commending himself to their confidence, by the correctness of his principles, and the ability with which he advanced them.

In the evident reconciliation of all conflicting interests among the Democrats of the district, by this nomination, and the entire harmony which distinguished the proceedings of this convention, all its auguries indicated an auspicious result, and so it proved. Judge Chamberlain in due time resigned his judgeship, and in accordance with the customs of the country, entered actively into the canvass, with his characteristic earnestness. In all his numerous addresses to the people, in every part of the district, he strictly conformed to his pledges to the convention. He treated his competitor (Mr. Brenton, who was the Whig candidate for re-election) with marked courtesy and fairness; took his stand firmly by the Constitution and its compromises, on the broad platform of Democratic principles and measures, not only as they are, but as they should be developed, under the influence of our peculiar political institutions, and the progressive spirit of the age; and was elected to the 33d Congress by nearly *one thousand majority*, in a district composed of counties which only the year previous had, in the Congressional election, given a Whig majority of about three hundred.

Did space permit, we would gladly conclude this sketch by making extracts from the published speeches of Judge Chamberlain. Those speeches are numerous and rich in passages well worthy of repetition; they are filled with that ardor and energy so characteristic of the youthful but vigorous West—and equally characteristic of their author, who has become thoroughly identified with that section of the country. In his addresses to the people, Judge Chamberlain always expressed himself in plain, simple, but forcible language, depending more upon the vigor of his thought than the elegance of his style to produce the desired im-

[illegible]

pression. He has ever been the advocate of reform and progress, and has been mainly instrumental in producing many beneficial changes in the laws and constitution of his adopted State.

HON. LINCOLN CLARK,

OF IOWA, LATE OF ALABAMA.

THE Honorable Lincoln Clark, a member of the XXXIII^d Congress, from the State of Iowa, and but recently Judge of the Circuit Court of Alabama, was born in Hampshire county, Massachusetts, in the year 1800. He is the son of one of those plain New England farmers, whose chief pride is to gain an honest and independent livelihood for themselves and families, out of the sterile soil of their native hills, literally compelling nature, amid a bleak and rugged region, to yield the recompense due to the sweat of the brow.

The writer of this sketch has heard the subject of it remark of his parents, that they realized the blessings of Agur's petition, for they had neither poverty nor riches, and were as far removed from vanity and lies. Surely this is sufficient pedigree to boast of. His mother was a lineal descendant of the Rev. James Keith, a celebrated Scotch divine, who came to America in the 17th century; a man, according to tradition, of talents, learning, and influence. His paternal grandfather was a Cape Cod whaler, who removed to Conway, the town of Mr. Clark's nativity, in western Massachusetts, during the revolution. He there died and was buried, and there many of his descendants lived, died, and were buried after him.

In his youth, Mr. Clark labored at the same occupation with his father, and there are not many kinds of work, incident thereto, in which he did not engage, including the *swingling* of flax, making maple sugar, and laying stone wall. Being the oldest son, his tasks were not light, and when at the age of eighteen the subject of a college education came to be agitated in the family, his father could ill spare from the farm so important an assistant; but appreciating the advantages of education, he soon made up his mind to make the sacrifice. He was himself a man of much reading for his occupation, and truly coveted the blessings of knowledge for his children. But notwithstanding a ready consent to release and to aid young Lincoln, the problem as to the *means* still remained to be solved; nor did either father or son see any way to solve it, save by the eye of faith. The latter embarked upon the enterprise pretty much as Abraham left his country, "not knowing whither he went." He did not, however, put out so far to sea during the two first years of his preparatory studies, that he could not return home to assist his father in the busy season of summer. This he cheerfully did, as a matter both of economy and necessity. Up to this period, the candidate

for college honors had shared only the common educational advantages of the district school of New England.

Before our youthful student entered college, he went to the State of New Jersey and taught school nine months at Paterson. He was there a member of the family of the Rev. Samuel Fisher, D.D., which was in itself an excellent school for him. The Doctor was a man of great talents, extensive learning, a powerful orator, and in all respects a good model for a young man. Young Clark's acquaintance with this distinguished man was without doubt a great advantage to him, and some compensation for the loss of time. But to be thus compelled to teach school, as he did every winter of his preparatory years, and the four years of his subsequent college course, greatly retarded his progress. In a letter to a young friend on the subject of struggling against discouragements in the acquisition of knowledge, Mr. Clark affords us a glimpse of his own experiences:—

“I was twenty-one when I entered college, and twenty-five when I graduated. It was almost more than I could do to accomplish my course. During my junior year I was on the point of abandoning my *Alma Mater*, solely for the want of money, but a distant relative furnished me a small sum on my father's security, and afterwards more money was borrowed in the same way. I was thus enabled to complete my course, but came out of college with a debt of \$500 upon my hands.” Judge Clark is an *Alumnus* of Amherst, a college located in his native county of Hampshire.

Such was his setting out in the world, loaded with a debt of \$500, to be paid as speedily as possible. His most available resource was that of many other young men in like circumstances, to bring his hard-earned education into practical use in imparting his knowledge to others. Judging that a southern State would afford the best encouragement, and having a friend in the upper part of North Carolina, he repaired thither, and was soon installed as principal of the Germanton Academy, Stokes county, in that State. He relinquished this situation at the end of one year, and the next took a class of young gentlemen in Greek and Latin, meanwhile reading Blackstone, Coke, and Clitty. He had no regular instructor, but found here a friend in the Hon. Nathaniel Boyden, who furnished him with law books, and occasionally opened to the solitary student a little of their mysteries. He subsequently went to Virginia, where for three years he combined the two laborious pursuits of teaching and studying law, as best he could for the advantage of himself and pupils. And now considering himself prepared to begin to practise his profession, at the end of this period he departed to the then distant State of Alabama, with that purpose. When he reached his destination he found that his expenses thither, after having paid his college indebtedness, purchased a small law library, and the horse by which he travelled, had exhausted every dollar of his late earnings. He had the world before him, and he had it to begin anew. He sold his horse, and hung out his *sign*!

His prospect there was not encouraging; month after month wore away, and no clients darkened his office doors. Without money, and without patronage, a stranger in a strange land, he was, as once before in college, almost tempted to yield up the race in despair! But it was hard to do

this; he resolved to succeed or die! He made another removal; he selected another county where less competition seemed to insure more immediate success. Pickens was then a border county, and its courthouse town but just laid out; the stumps were fresh in the middle of its streets, and there were in it but three offices which deserved the name: these were already occupied by other members of the legal profession, at a rent of five dollars per month! How fortunate, thought Mr. Clark, are those fellows who are able to pay five dollars a month for a respectable office! *He* was obliged to take a rude log hut at two dollars!

"There is a tide in the affairs of men"—a summit-level, where the waters begin to flow two ways, or cease to flow against the traveller who is advancing upward. There is an apex to misfortune and disappointment, above which the tears of anguish cannot rise; and, in the lives of most men of the right stamp, it is when matters have come to about this point, that the tide of their affairs takes a favorable turn. It was so with the subject of this sketch. He here found one friend who thought he saw in him something worth cherishing; he soon found many friends. He was elected Justice of the Peace, an office in Alabama of considerable fees, sufficient of itself to afford him a support. He now began to be noticed as a lawyer, and, at the end of two years, had a fair practice. About this time he was elected to the State Legislature, as a Jackson Democrat, in a canvass in which the issues were *Union* and *Nullification*. One of his acts at the ensuing session was to vote to invite the Hon. Gabriel Moore, then United States Senator, to resign because he had become obnoxious to the Democracy of Alabama.* Mr. Clark was re-elected the ensuing year.

During this session, that is, in the winter of 1834-5, an effort was made in the Alabama Legislature, which was largely democratic, to present Hugh L. White, of Tennessee, as the *democratic* candidate for the Presidency. This movement Mr. Clark strenuously opposed, on the ground that it was premature, and that Judge White's leanings were against the Democratic party. White's friends however persevered, and at the very next session were compelled to admit the correctness of Mr. Clark's course and to retrace their steps. Another act of that session, which he took much pleasure in performing, was the opportunity to vote for the late lamented Vice President, the Hon. Wm. R. King, for the Senate of the United States. It is his pleasure and good fortune to have been always honored with the confidence and friendship of that distinguished man.

In the year 1836 Mr. Clark, for the first time, it is believed, since his residence south, and after many years of absence, paid a visit to his father and brethren in Massachusetts. He was still a bachelor, but during this visit was married to an accomplished young lady of the same neighborhood where he was himself born and reared, who is still the partner and pride of her husband, as she has been the counsellor and faithful companion of his subsequent life.

*The writer of this sketch, being of opposite politics, does not undertake to express his own opinions upon this, or other political acts of his personal friend, Judge Clark. What he states are facts either within his own knowledge, or which have become matters of history, and, as such, are left to speak for themselves.

On returning to the South, he was invited by the Hon. E. Woolsey Peck of Tuscaloosa, the then seat of government of Alabama, to a copartnership with him, which he accepted, and with whom he continued ten years, enjoying a lucrative and honorable practice. In Chancellor Peck he found a partner of the very highest order of talents, and profound legal learning; a friend whose kind regard has never abated. To accept this copartnership it was necessary for him to remove to the State capital, having resided in the county of Pickens about four years. Describing his residence there, he says:

"I saw much of the strife, riot and bloodshed which often prevail in frontier localities. I saw men shot and wounded—men shot and killed. Convictions for murder could not then be had, but there is a better state of things now."

In 1839 Mr. Clark received from Governor Bagby the appointment of Attorney General of the State of Alabama. In 1845 Governor Fitzpatrick (now United States Senator) conferred upon him, without solicitation, the office of Judge of the Circuit Court of that State. To accept this appointment, he resigned his seat in the House of Representatives, to which he had been just elected for Tuscaloosa by a respectable majority, although a Whig county. His labors that summer were of the most arduous nature. During the brief space of six weeks he was required to canvass for the Legislature, and also attend to a large practice in the Supreme and Chancery courts.

In the spring of 1846, Judge Clark was urged by his political friends to permit his name to be used in the Democratic Convention of the Fourth Congressional District, as a candidate for Congress—a district where such a nomination was equivalent to an election. He did not consent, but was balloted for against his consent, and frequently received a *majority* of the votes cast, two thirds being required to nominate. The county of Fayette, the residence of the present member, and the strongest Democratic county in that district, was not represented in the convention. The leading Democrats of Fayette, for reasons not necessary to be here disclosed, would not send a delegation, unless Judge Clark would consent to become a candidate. Had Fayette been represented, he would have been nominated by the requisite two thirds upon the first ballot.

For some time previous to 1846, Judge Clark had been seriously contemplating a removal and settlement upon the Mississippi river, that great commercial artery of the country. This design was hastened by the removal of the seat of government from Tuscaloosa, the city of his residence, to Montgomery, on the Alabama river—a removal which took with it the most important courts, thus materially decreasing the business of the profession, and affecting the general importance and interests of the place. Deeming this to be a fit time for him to carry out his intention of establishing himself upon the "great father of waters," after a tour of exploration, Mr. Clark, in 1847, removed to the Northwest, and located himself at Dubuque, a flourishing city of Iowa.

There, in the young State of his adoption, it was not long before honors began to crowd thick upon him. The very next year, the presidential election coming on, the Judge was put upon the Democratic ticket as elector, and canvassed the State for "Cass and Butler." Iowa having cast her vote for these gentlemen, he was selected by his electoral col-

leagues to carry the vote to Washington. During this canvass the question of political abolitionism had to be met. Judge Clark attacked it as heretical and mischievous; it tottered to its fall, and has not since troubled Iowa elections.

In 1850, Judge Clark was nominated for Congress without the slightest knowledge that such a thing was in contemplation, and was elected by a majority of 1000—more than double the majority ever before given to any of his predecessors in that district. Having served through this (32d) Congress with honor and credit, he was re-nominated in 1852 by the regular convention of his party. The nomination was not unanimous. For the first time in his life, having never been a seeker of office—all his honors hitherto having been thrust upon him rather than sought—our friend found himself in the awkward dilemma of belonging to a house divided against itself. The division was of a local character—that most fatal of all political distractions. He received the majority in the convention by a strictly local vote. No less than four railroad schemes had been projected in the district, each in antagonism to the other; jealousy and rivalry ensued, and defeat was the consequence. The subject of railroads became the chief element of the canvass, from the desire to obtain for the rival schemes grants of land from the general government.

Having, for the most part, confined this sketch to a simple narration of the prominent incidents in the life of the subject thereof, we leave them to speak for themselves. The narrative might have swelled into a volume, but the writer preferred to present a connected chain of facts without comment or embellishment. We have seen him struggling on through all the gradations of toil as a boy-student, then a schoolmaster, next a college student and pedagogue alternately—a graduate, still teaching to pay off that \$500 debt, studying law *ad interim*, and next with his sign out! Now intervenes a dark hour of despair, away in distant Alabama, at the age of thirty, still battling with poverty, and the battle has been a terrible one!

Lo! a bright spot in the sky!—"One friend!"—other friends—is elected Justice of the Peace!—What a God-send! Then, in quick succession, come elections to the Legislature—business—co-partnership—marriage to a beautiful, lovely, and accomplished young lady—Attorney-Generalship—Judgeship—Electorship—oratorical honors, and election to Congress. Let such a beginning and ending speak for themselves!

Judge Clark's manner of speaking is grave, dignified, and impressive. He is a serious-minded, and we may add, a religious man. He has for many years been a professor of Christianity, and while he is a scrupulous observer of the forms, and a sincere believer in the tenets of his church, he is liberal and tolerant to all. There is a tendency to scriptural illustrations and quotations in his public addresses and speeches, and an aptness therein which sometimes almost smacks of the clerical. No man has less of cant or hypocrisy, and if a familiarity with the best of books enables him to illustrate and enforce great truths, he is not the first American orator whose productions have been enriched from the same source. It shows the *timber* he is made of, the sober New England origin grafted upon the old Scotch ancestry—an origin and ancestry not the worst in the world.

Judge Clark is not a professed politician; he has devoted but a small

portion of his life to politics. That office has sought *him*, rather than he *it*, has been seen; when it has come in his way, he has considered it well enough to accept it, whenever he could without any sacrifice of his principles or too much sacrifice of his interests. He has made his political aspirations subservient to his professional standing and character as a lawyer. The law is his *forte*, what the struggle of his life has been to cherish, follow, and master, and upon which to found a reputation.

As a lawyer, Judge Clark is not so remarkable for great readiness, as for correctness and soundness. He is an honest and safe counsellor, an eloquent and powerful advocate. One of his maxims for his law students is, "Never advise a suit you ought not, or cannot gain." No lawyer ever practised the profession more conscientiously, or felt deeper anxiety for the interests of his clients, and few have been more successful in gaining causes for a series of years, in a responsible and laborious practice.

As a man, a neighbor, or a member of society, Mr. Clark is full of kindness and charities. He is a man for counsel for those in need of friendly advice, to be sought by such as need protection, to be supplicated by those needing alms—these will not go empty away. His kindness and urbanity towards young members of the bar, contrast strikingly with the crabbedness of some old practitioners, who keep up their dignity and importance by a frowning brow and sour aspect towards "juniors." Mindful, perhaps, of his own early struggles and trials, and prompted by a kind and benevolent heart, the subject of this sketch delights to take the novice by the hand, and to aid him in various ways—by gratuitous counsel, by an encouraging word, by inducting him into one of his own cases, and helping him onward in a maiden speech with points of law.

Upon his return from Washington, at the close of the thirty-second Congress, Judge Clark resumed the practice of his profession, to which he is devotedly attached, and which he still pursues with zeal and energy unabated, and as is believed with the success of former years when he was the familiar acquaintance of the writer of this sketch.

HENRY C. WALKER,

OF MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE,

Is a native of Virginia, and the third son of Colonel James Walker, of Buckingham county, Virginia, who died in the year 1828, while Henry was at school. He was considered a wealthy planter, and his children were reared in the belief that they would inherit a fortune. The estate was nearly absorbed to pay the debts, and the minor children were deprived of advantages in education bestowed on the older. Henry, through the efforts of his oldest brother, then in Tennessee, received the appointment of Cadet at West Point, in the year 1830. As



H. C. Walker

CHAMBERS, FINEY



Edwin Farrar
" "

he was the oldest son then with his mother, in Virginia, he was induced by her, reluctantly, to decline it. In 1832 his mother and family removed to Tennessee. In 1833 he entered as a merchant's clerk in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. In 1835 he was elected assistant clerk of the House of Representatives, over the old incumbent of the office. In April, 1836, he was elected a clerk in the Union Bank of Tennessee, at Nashville. In the fall of the same year he was promoted to the office of teller of said bank, which he held until May, 1843, when he was elected Cashier of the Union Bank of Tennessee, at Memphis. The deranged affairs of the bank requiring constant application and great labor, impaired his health to such an extent that he was compelled, in 1846, by the advice of his physician, to go to Havana, and thence to the south of France and Italy. In the fall of 1847 he returned home, restored to health, and resumed his duties as cashier. He held the office until August of 1850, when he resigned, and became a partner of the house of S. O. Nelson & Co., cotton factors and commission merchants of New Orleans, of which house he is now a member.

Since the commencement of his business life, his industry and application to business have secured to him many friends in his adopted State, and marked out for him success in all his undertakings.

EDWIN FARRAR,

OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA,

A LIKENESS of whom accompanies this sketch, was born on the 4th day of September, 1806, in the county of Chesterfield, in the State of Virginia. His father, Peter Field Farrar, was the son of John Farrar, of the county of Chesterfield. His mother, Susan Tompkins, was the daughter of Col. Christopher Tompkins (of the county of King William, in the State of Virginia), who figured with distinction at the siege of Yorktown, and was a colonel in the regular service of the United States.

Edwin Farrar, the subject of this sketch, displayed in early youth a quickness of apprehension, a ready business tact, and an indefatigable energy of will, with a sterling moral worth, which promised a life of usefulness and honorable exertion, in whatever pursuit he might elect to follow. His education was limited, yet he ever displayed a reverence for the wisdom, virtue, and learning of "the fathers of the Republic." His mind was quick to apprehend, as his heart was ready to respond to the examples presented in the lives of the good and enlightened men around him. A Virginian by birth, he was essentially a Virginia gentleman in every impulse of his heart. With a keen sense of honor, and a natural repugnance to every species of deceit or duplicity, he cherished the honor of his State next to that of his own family.

Commencing life with such principles as these, and with an energy of

purpose rarely surpassed, his prospects were bright and his success sure. He selected, at an early period of youth, a commercial life as his choice, and while yet quite young entered one of the first houses in Richmond. He soon displayed the sterling qualities of his head and heart, and rapidly rose in the estimation of his employers and business acquaintances. In a few years he set up for himself, and rapidly secured, by his energy and fidelity, the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens.

He married Martha Ann Lewis (daughter of Francis Lewis, of Henrico county, Virginia, and granddaughter of old Madam Lewis, of Marion Hill, Henrico county) on the 28th March, 1832. Blessed with the confidence and love of so beautiful and accomplished a wife, he redoubled his energies, and followed the calling of his choice with great success until the pecuniary revulsion in 1837, which ruined so many fortunes and disappointed so many hopes. The unprecedented reverses of that year greatly deranged his business, and materially retarded his success. Nothing daunted, he was equal to every call upon his energies, and withstood the "tide of ill success" with a fortitude equal to the occasion.

From his earliest youth he was a supporter of the most liberal system of internal improvements, popular education, and home development. He was ever a true republican. When the Whig party was formed, he espoused its cause, and rallied in support of its great founder and leader with a zeal which never abated, and a devotion which never weakened. At all times, under all circumstances, his purse was open as his heart was wedded to the service of the party on the success of which he believed the prosperity of the country depended. In this particular he eminently displayed the integrity of his nature, and the inflexibility of his purpose, when under a deliberate conviction of duty. No reverse of fortune, no defeat, however severe, could ever dampen his ardor or abate his zeal. He rallied to each successive contest with a resolution equal to every exertion, yet tempered by an urbanity of manner and softened by a social regard for his friends of the opposing party, which endeared him to all who knew him. He is now what he has ever been, a true Whig, a high-toned republican, and a most worthy gentleman—not the less useful because he is in the private walks of life.

For several years he has been elected an alderman in the city of Richmond, Virginia. On the bench he has ever maintained the same high character for integrity and firmness which he displayed in the private walks of life. A rigid and inflexible impartiality, a stern and unyielding sense of duty, and an imperturbable sense of justice, with a quick apprehension and a well arranged and self-poised judgment, he analyses with ease and decides with promptitude alike the law and evidence in the cases before him; while he ever displays on the bench the equanimity of temper and suavity of manner which characterize his private intercourse with his fellow-citizens.

This sketch might well be extended, and innumerable incidents in the life of Mr. Farrar given in detail, which would illustrate what we have already said of him. But this is needless. We write rather to sketch the main outlines of his character and give the general tenor of his life, than to furnish in detail the incidents of a life as useful as it is private, and honorable as it has been and is unostentatious. As a man, a merchant, a patriot, a justice, and a private citizen, Mr. Farrar has exemplified

in life the promise of his youth, and is now the respected and esteemed gentleman, with energies unsubdued, and with a life of usefulness before him.

We may add, that John Farrar, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, married Rebecca Wathen, who was the granddaughter of Charles Hudson of the county of Hanover. George Hudson, the brother of Charles, was the grandfather of Henry Clay. These two brothers married the two Miss Jennings, who, it is believed, are the regular descendants in line, and right heirs to the great Jennings estate of seventy-two millions of dollars, in England. This estate, which has attracted so much general attention, and has been so long locked up in chancery, may yet be distributed, through the descendants of Charles and George Hudson, to citizens of the United States, and a goodly portion would go to the subject of this brief memoir and his brothers and sisters, who are, Chastain, John, Robert, Dr. Joseph C., Susan Ann, Catharine, and Martha E. Farrar.

EDMUND FONTAINE,

OF RICHMOND, PRESIDENT OF THE VIRGINIA CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY.

If History be "philosophy teaching by example," Biography should belong to the department of experimental philosophy; for whilst the former commends itself to us by its great truths and its general lessons of civil and political wisdom, the latter presents us with the record of the practical life and the personal experience of those whose actions form the subject of our contemplation. In this point of view, biography affords us the experimental results of principles and rules in action—brings us into closer contact with the thoughts and character of those whose talents, integrity and enterprise have exerted a marked influence on society, and become to the young and emulous, who may come after them, at once an incentive and a guide to that goal "where Fame's proud temple shines afar."

It is a just occasion of felicitation to every American citizen to reflect that in no other country are there to be found so many examples of men who, by solid merit, have won their way to a high place in the general esteem and confidence, as in his own favored land. This result is due in a great degree to the admirable political institutions transmitted to us from our sagacious and patriotic forefathers. It should be admitted, however, that much is due also to the influence of circumstances connected with the early ancestral history of the families and races which peopled this western continent in the beginning. Who can fail to discern in the peculiarities which distinguish the various inhabitants of this great country (comprehended, for want of a better, under the general but non-distinctive name of Americans), the strong features, and the prominent na-

tional traits that belong to us, as descendants of English, Scotch, Irish, French, and German parents? The names are not less significant of the peculiar, mosaic origin of the "Universal Yankee Nation," than the nature we inherit from our respective ancestral stock, and these appellatives become, not unfrequently, the key to the comprehension of the distinctive qualities which mark their possessor in the particular department of life to which he may be devoted. An illustration of these observations is furnished in a remarkable degree by the personal as well as family history and character of the subject of this imperfect sketch.

Edmund Fontaine, a native of Hanover county, Virginia, was born January 20th, 1801. He is, as his name imports, of French extraction—being a descendant of the Huguenots, of one of those Protestant refugees whose cruel sufferings and persecution for conscience' sake, endured with undaunted and heroic fortitude, form one of the most thrilling and romantic episodes ever recorded on the page of history. His own family especially, from the days of their great founder, Jaques de la Fontaine, in 1535, seem to have been visited by a larger measure of Popish intolerance and ferocity than fell to the lot of others. On the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, October 22, 1685, James Fontaine, one of his sons, then a Protestant pastor in France, who had previously been subjected to a long imprisonment and confiscation of his estates, as the price of his fidelity to the stern claims of conscience and duty, fled from his native country, and with many other exiled pilgrims, took refuge from the bloody persecution of Louis XIV. in England. Having encountered many hardships and misfortunes in England, and afterwards in Ireland, several of his sons and one of his daughters, Mrs. Maury, with her husband, Matthew Maury, emigrated to the colony of Virginia, and about the year 1720 settled in the counties of Lunenburg, King William, Louisa, and Hanover. From one of these, Peter, descended William Fontaine, the father of the subject of this memoir. Col. William Fontaine was an officer in the revolutionary army, and participated with distinction in the capture of Yorktown, and the surrender of Cornwallis and his army on that memorable occasion. It is only a few years ago, that Wm. C. Rives, Esq., then a Senator in Congress from Virginia, and more recently the American minister at the court of France, enriched the valuable archives of the Virginia Historical Society by the presentation to them of an original letter from Col. Wm. Fontaine (which had been fortunately preserved among the family records), dated October 26, 1781, less than one week after the event, detailing in glowing and patriotic terms the particulars of the surrender of York.*

The descendant, in the paternal line, of the Huguenot pilgrim and the Revolutionary patriot, Col. Fontaine's maternal ancestry were scarcely less favorable to the transmission and development of those hereditary qualities, which he has illustrated in his less conspicuous, but useful and

* These particulars are gleaned from a spirited and interesting work just issued from the press of Putnam & Co., entitled "Memoirs of a Huguenot Family, translated and compiled from the original autobiography of the Rev. James Fontaine, by Ann Maury," herself a descendant of the distinguished family whose memoirs she has gracefully edited.

honorable career. His mother, Mrs. Ann Fontaine, was the daughter of William Morris of Hanover, and the sister of Richard Morris of the same county—an eminent lawyer and statesman, whose high reputation for talents, social virtue, and chivalrous honor is familiarly known throughout Virginia.

This little sketch of the family antecedents of Col. Fontaine is not drawn with any view of inviting the attention of the public to any consideration he may be supposed to claim from a noble ancestry. No one would condemn more severely than himself so unworthy an object; inasmuch as no one more fully appreciates the wisdom of our republican system, and the simplicity of republican manners which makes merit, not family distinctions, the only criterion of public consideration and respect. It is to exhibit the spirit of manly freedom, the love of liberty, and the bold independence of his early progenitors, not the nobility of their descent, that these facts are useful and worthy of recital.

Reared in habits of sobriety and industry, and inheriting a small patrimony, Edmund Fontaine devoted himself with diligence and perseverance to the pursuits of agriculture, and soon exhibited to his neighbors and countrymen the fruits of a mature judgment in the system, energy, and thrift which distinguished his management. In Virginia he has been well known as a successful farmer, and has ever been ready and prompt to give every impulse in his power to progress and improvement in the beneficent work of husbandry. This earnest and active spirit of enterprise early attracted the attention of his countrymen, and led to his being called from his avocations as a farmer to a more enlarged theatre of action. In 1834 he was nominated by a convention and was elected to represent the senatorial district composed of the counties of Hanover, Louisa, Fluvanna and Goochland, in the Legislature of Virginia, beating, by a handsome majority, a most estimable gentleman, the late Horatio Gates Winston, who had been the late incumbent and was candidate for re-election.

At the expiration of his term, his re-election was opposed in an active canvass by Dr. Joseph M. Shephard of Hanover, but he was again elected by his confiding constituents. During this term, Col. Fontaine, who had been a decided and active member of the Democratic party, felt constrained by a high sense of public duty to oppose the administration of Mr. Van Buren. His course on this occasion, and his affiliation with the conservative party of that day, brought down upon him the thunders of the party press, and the bitter hostility of some of his late political allies. Great excitement prevailed, and threats of indignant instructions from the constituent body were freely used as a means of intimidation. The intrepid firmness of Col. Fontaine was proof against all such menaces. He did not falter for a moment in his course. His opponents made the effort to get up instructions to him, in accordance with the Virginia doctrines, to support the administration or to resign his place. The attempt was, however, a signal failure, and the Senator was thus left free to follow the direction of his own judgment and discretion. At the end of this second term, he retired from the Senate to the more quiet and congenial employment of domestic and agricultural life. He had previously been married at the age of twenty-four to Maria Louisa Shackleford—a lady whose personal attractions, united to her amiable disposition and culti-

vated intellect, rendered their union a constant source of domestic tranquillity and happiness. Under such benign home influences, Col. Fontaine has been blessed with a numerous offspring, whose training and education he has directed with the most anxious and assiduous care.

It was during his service in the State Senate that Colonel Fontaine was called on, as the representative of his district, to take an active interest in the affairs of the then *Louisa*, and now Virginia Central Railroad Company, with whose fortunes he has ever since been closely identified. Having taken the leading part in the passage of a law for the construction of this road from a point on the Richmond and Potomac railroad, in the direction of Harrisonburg, in the valley of Virginia, Colonel Fontaine was appointed by the Board of Public Works the proxy to represent the interest of three fifths of the stock then held by the State in that work. Soon after the road was completed to Gordonsville, in Orange county, he was appointed a delegate to a convention held at Harrisonburg, the object of which was to devise means to bring the road across the mountains to that point. It was on this occasion that the enterprise and forecast of Colonel Fontaine were strikingly displayed in the proposition he brought forward, for the first time, to extend this road to the *Ohio river*. At that early day, in the infancy of such enterprises in Virginia, the bare idea of reaching the Ohio through or over the mountain barriers of Virginia was denounced as chimerical, and it required a man of some nerve to expose himself to the jeers and reproaches with which such a proposal would be greeted.

The energy, zeal, and intelligence with which Colonel Fontaine sustained the claims and the capability of this little *Louisa* road, as it was then regarded, to be the great western pioneer in bringing to the Atlantic seaboard the heavy trade and travel of the Mississippi and Ohio valleys, and the boldness and vigor with which he pressed his views, united to his known business habits and qualifications, soon pointed him out to the public and to the stockholders as the safest and wisest guardian to whom its rising fortunes could be confided. Accordingly, in the year 1845, he was elected the President of the company.

The first measure in reference to which he was called on to act afforded an occasion to display his fitness for the station to which he had been called.

The question was submitted to the stockholders, at their first meeting after his election, whether the road should continue to be a mere feeder to the Richmond and Potomac road, or, by assuming its proper rank as an independent work, become one of the great lines of national commerce and importance. At this time, the Richmond road was actually doing the transportation of the *Louisa*—furnishing their own cars and engines, running at such hours as to suit their own convenience or caprice, and paying to the *Louisa* company a fixed sum by way of remuneration, for the surrender to them of the valuable trade and travel over their road. Colonel Fontaine resolved to break up this miserable dependence—to shake off this grasping monopoly of the resources of his own road, which preyed like a vampyre on the vitals of his little bantling. It was, however, no easy task. The annual stipend derived from the Richmond road paid a *dividend* to the *Louisa* stockholders. This might be endangered, and a large party among the stockholders loudly insisted

that the connection should continue, and that the perilous experiment of sustaining an independent existence should not be hazarded. Such arguments, it may well be conceived, possessed no weight in the eyes of one whose fathers had always preferred independence in honorable poverty to the most successful affluence at the unworthy sacrifice of principle and the spirit of liberty. Amid much excitement and warm but ineffectual opposition, he succeeded in convincing the stockholders that honorable independence was no less politic than right. From that day this little local road received an impulse which has steadily urged it onward in the path of prosperity and success. Following up this separation by a subsequent and more effectual emancipation of all control of, and connection with its early and envious neighbor, by the construction of an independent road to Richmond, crossing the Richmond and Northern road at the junction, the old Louisa road, now known to fame as the *Virginia Central Railroad*, has become, under the fostering and careful management of President Fontaine, emphatically the leading road of the State, stretching itself far beyond its first mountain barrier, and now under contract by its connections with the Blue Ridge and the Covington and Ohio railroads, to the long wished for waters of the Ohio river.

This result has not been attained without great exertions and the most untiring perseverance on the part of the president and directors. On President Fontaine especially and almost exclusively devolved the heavy task of sustaining the road, under many adverse circumstances. Having procured a naked charter from the Legislature for the extension by an independent road to Richmond, against heavy opposition, he set about the difficult task of raising the necessary funds to build the road. In this enterprise he encountered peculiar difficulties from the timid, the lukewarm, and the disaffected in his own company, and especially from the ceaseless hostility to the whole scheme on the part of his old rivals, the Richmond and Potomac company, who complained of the infringement of their monopoly, of the violation of their chartered privileges, and even invoked the interposition of the judiciary of both the State and Federal authority, to stop the construction of the work. Resolute in his purpose, and sustained by the generous confidence of a majority of the stockholders, Colonel Fontaine was not to be driven for a moment from the prosecution of the object he had undertaken. Perhaps the most formidable shape assumed by the opposition at this crisis, consisted in the steady and systematic attempt to discredit the financial ability of the company, to exaggerate its liabilities, and thus to destroy its credit in the market.

Reckless and ungenerous as was this species of opposition, it served only to call forth fresh energy and to display a bolder determination on the part of the president of the company. The actual subscription to the new stock to construct this section of the road of some twenty-five miles, reached only the inadequate sum of \$38,000. Nothing daunted by such discouragements, and resolved to accomplish a work which he knew would enhance the value of the stock and infuse new life into the road, with real generosity he did not hesitate to pledge his own private resources in aid of the enterprise, and thus sustain the assailed credit of the company; after appropriating the entire sales of his crops to supply

deficiencies in the company's fund. With some of his colleagues in the board of directors, he endorsed the company's paper to a heavy amount, at a time when its finances were low, and when, without such aid, the most serious embarrassments would have ensued. Such zeal, public spirit, and indefatigable energy, soon told in the rising prominence and prosperity of this company. When called to the presidency, he found the road a mere local highway, extending from the junction in Hanover to Gordonsville, in Orange county, a distance of fifty miles. As a natural result of its limited business, its obscure position, and especially its ruinous dependence for its transportation on another company, to which it had become a mere tender, its stock of the original value of \$100 had fallen to about \$20 in the market, and many of the stockholders had ceased to take any active interest in its fortunes. Under the auspices of Colonel Fontaine, and deriving an invigorating vitality from his energetic administration, the whole aspect of its affairs is changed. Charters have been granted for its extension to the waters of the Ohio, in which the State has liberally and wisely embarked her own money to the extent of three fifths of the entire capital of near four millions of dollars. Its stock has rapidly advanced in the market to an honorable competition with the most profitable roads in the State, and it is now generally admitted that the most speedy, certain, and practicable connection of the Atlantic seaboard with the Ohio river is to be effected by the *Virginia Central Railroad*, when united with the State's tributary lines already referred to. Indeed, if we regard the great Atlantic and Pacific railway as already decreed, there is every reason to believe that the Central railroad must constitute the Virginia link in that great chain which is to bind together our American Union in the strong bands of mutual commerce and association, unite by a direct line the shores of the two oceans, open the illimitable fields of oriental trade to our enterprise, and in time, by our steam connections with the Sandwich and South Pacific islands and the Chinese Empire, encircle the earth itself with a bright and unbroken girdle, diffusing in its track the intelligence, the wealth, the refinement, and civilization of the age and country in which we live.

That these ulterior advantages and this imposing mission of the railroad with which he has been so closely identified, seem not to have escaped the just anticipations of President Fontaine, is manifest from the manner in which he recites its objects and capabilities in the last annual report which, under date of October 29th, 1852, he made to the stockholders. He says: "With reference to the transportation of the heavy productions of the valleys of the Ohio and Mississippi, it will thus be seen that the James River canal, and the railroad from its terminus to the Ohio, present a line for its directness, the mild temperature of its location, and its general capacity for cheapness of transportation, unequalled by any which aims at connecting the West with the Atlantic coast. . . . A glance at the map of the United States is enough to show that the great outlet for Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, and Tennessee ought to be through Virginia to the Atlantic; and the movements recently made and being made by these States in the work of improvement and intercommunication, have demonstrated most clearly, not only that the central railroad line through Virginia is called for as a great medium of trade and travel, but that when made it must be a source of great profit from the investment."

In person Col. Fontaine is of about the usual stature. He has the rather slight figure, the delicate features, blonde complexion, light hair, quick movements, and mild blue eyes which are usually characteristic of the Huguenot refugees. His manners are affable, frank, and cordial. Personal firmness, quick sagacity, and uncommon energy of purpose are plainly marked in his countenance and bearing. He has proved himself on more than one occasion no unequal match for some of the ablest and most skilful debaters in Virginia, whom it has been his fortune to encounter in the political as well as the internal improvement conflicts in which he has been called to engage. It is this conviction of his valuable practical talents, derived from thorough attention to his previous career, that drew from one of the most sagacious and prominent men in Virginia, himself a political opponent, a strong and emphatic rebuke of the suggestion that Col. Fontaine, under the new *régime* of the Board of Public Works in Virginia, would probably be ostracized for some party favorite. He said with emphasis: "*Never--never!*" He has rendered too much service to the State, he has too much energy, perseverance, and practical good sense, for his services to be dispensed with. He has fought his way through the gibes and ridicule of enemies and lukewarm friends, and has forced himself and his road to be respected. *Such a man as that can't be put down.*"

FRANCIS HAROLD DUFFEE,

MEMBER OF THE SELECT COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA.

It has been truthfully averred that the most difficult of all literary tasks, is to write an unexceptionable memoir of a living man. If the life is worth the record, there is always danger of offending that delicacy which is inseparable from merit; for even moderate praise, which may meet the eyes of its subject, is apt to be fulsome, while a nice sense of propriety would not be the less wounded by a dry abstract which should contain nothing but names and dates. Notwithstanding this seeming dilemma, we hold, however, to the opinion that there is much salutary information to be gleaned from the memoirs of those who may be emphatically termed self-made men—and hence it is that the various incidents of their lives frequently form so pleasing as well as monitory an influence. Of such a class is the subject of our present sketch, and although he has hitherto deservedly appeared in print as a "City Notable," and received high encomiums from another quarter as one confessedly of fine literary abilities, we purpose furnishing an entirely new sketch, blending a description of him both in an intellectual and business point of view, so as to embrace the distinguishing features of character which have rendered him worthy of being considered as an accomplished and useful citizen.

Francis Harold Duffee was born in the city of Philadelphia, on the

9th day of October, 1813. The occupation of his father we are unacquainted with, but we know he was not rich, notwithstanding he gave his two sons a most liberal education, thus fitting them for the higher walks of life. His good intentions were not unrewarded, for Francis has gained himself a distinguished social and literary position; and his brother, as a surgeon, has done sufficient to make his name associated with honor both in medical and scientific circles. Mr. Duffee was, we believe, originally intended for the counting-house, in which he was placed at an early age. But amid the summing up of long accounts and the wearisome investigation of ledgers and day books, he first gave indications of his fine literary powers. He set to work and produced several domestic dramas, which attracted the attention and charmed the fancy of some youthful Thespians, who had them immediately produced at one of their minor dramatic establishments. A now celebrated actor, who was an amateur at the time of their representations, has informed us that they made a most decisive hit, and that in the green-room gossip there were frequent speculations in regard to the author's future success as a play writer.* Mr. Duffee's next step in the classic but thorny path of literature was to give vent to his poetic effusions through the columns of the "American Sentinel." At this period it was not every man who could be "connected with the press." The men who had control of the columns could read and understand, if they could not write good poetry; and a piece, to insure insertion, must at least possess merit. Now things have changed, and we really believe there are as many poets and authors as there are doctors and lawyers. But we cannot touch these things now; all we have to do is to attend to Mr. Duffee. His poems were, to say the least of them, good if not great, and always received the sanction of the public and the approbation of those who indulged in reading the inspiration of others.

The following we clip from an old paper, which we give by way of justification for our remarks:—

LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP.

Like dew-drops to the opening flower
Is friendship to the soul;
Our bosoms feel its chastening power,
And own its sweet control.

But love is like the morning's beam
O'er beds of roses early stealing;
It wakens fancy's earliest dream,
And warms to life each dormant feeling.

When reft of fortune's sunny smiles,
We turn to friendship for relief;
'Tis this that every woe beguiles,
And calms the aching throbs of grief.

* See "Dramatic Authors of America."

But love! let that entwine our hearts,
Its golden links time cannot sever;
Friendship's fond smile sometimes departs,
But fervent love, it changeth never.

After our author became somewhat known to the public by means of his articles in the "Sentinel," he commenced to contribute to other papers, that professed to be the leading ones of the country. The "Saturday Evening Post" got its share of his articles, as did the "Mechanic's Free Press." Mr. Duffee was an industrious young writer, and brought forth his articles in quick succession, although not sufficiently fast as some of the publishers would have liked. While engaged in contributing to the "Free Press," he got into a newspaper difficulty with some gentlemen who seemed to be alarmed at his success. This only appeared to stimulate him; he went to work in earnest, replied to his opponents in a genteel manner which silenced them, and made new friends who have since turned out to be true ones.

Shortly after this Mr. Duffee engaged to furnish the publisher of the "American Pioneer" with a series of Indian sketches, a task for which he was fully qualified, both by reason of his experience and fancy. They made an excitement as soon as they appeared, as the books of the paper can most fully and explicitly testify. One of them, the "Pequod Maid," we have read time and again with exquisite pleasure; had we a copy of it we would gladly make extracts. "The Rival Chiefs," "The Eagle Plume," "The Last of his Tribe," and a number of others make up the series. They showed a lively imaginative power and a close observation to be their author's portion. They appeared without any name to them, however, and on that account some were adopted by a literary gentleman who, not having much originality of his own, prized himself on his good taste. The cheat was discovered, however, by some of the author's friends, who stripped the literary magpie of his stolen plumes, and gave them to their owner. We understand that our author has no copy of his sketches, but has scattered them like sybilline leaves to the future, whence they will at least ever be kept green in the memory and recollection of those by whom they are perused. From early life Mr. Duffee has been an ardent admirer of the drama. He had studied it in detail, and there was scarcely a passage in any standard production upon the stage but what he had read and was familiar with. With this knowledge he had a fine conception, which was greatly improved by his becoming a pupil under Dwyer, the celebrated elocutionist. In perusing a file of the "Dramatic Mirror" which is before us, we find some very able criticisms published as editorial, that became celebrated among the lovers and judges of dramatic excellence. In one paper we find that the editor speaks of them as able contributions, and in almost every number we find communications from persons endorsing and praising the articles for their independence, honesty, and beauty of style. It was while in connection with the "Dramatic Mirror" that Mr. Duffee became acquainted with Mr. James Rees, a well known critic and author. It appears somewhat singular that two individuals of nearly the same school of thinking should thus come together with the same determination. They immediately became bosom friends, and remain so still, and it is to their combined efforts

that the patrons of the drama owe much in regard to the correction of stage abuses. Those who are cynical may exclaim with truth, "There is not much done as yet," but the articles of "Mac-duff" and "Colley Cibber" have begun the good work that must eventually be perfected. In musical matters, Mr. Duffee has also some good pretensions. His knowledge of the divine art is practical, and he is perfectly familiar with all its technicalities. Quite a number of operatic reviews from his pen appeared some time ago in the "Pennsylvanian" and "Daily Keystone," evincing much taste and scientific knowledge. After Mr. Duffee had spent some time in his regular occupation as an accountant, destiny ordered him to undertake a journey to the "far West." When he arrived in Louisville, he found that his reputation had preceded him, and where he expected to meet the cold courtesy of strangers, he found the warm welcome of friendship, and the extended hand of hospitality. He immediately became a regular contributor to the Louisville Journal, one of the best western papers, edited by that well known poet, wit, and gentleman, George D. Prentice, Esq., whose kindness to Sumner Lincoln Fairfield at once showed the true spirit of philanthropy that held its place in his heart. This talented gentleman was so pleased with one of Mr. Duffee's productions, descriptive of the western prairies and Indian mounds, that he openly expressed himself in the following complimentary manner: "For graphic description and glowing imagery this piece has been but seldom equalled, and never surpassed." When a man like George D. Prentice thus expresses himself, we can in truth say that the production must be meritorious. Whilst engaged in the stern rounds of a business life, away from home and kindred, he found time to add much to his literary reputation, and at the same time exhibit his strong versatile powers. He wrote some fine graphic sketches of the most prominent western literature; showing that, to a fine imagination and an amiable disposition, he possessed a highly critical and analytical mind. They were extensively copied, and eagerly sought after, both by the friends of the parties and the public generally.

After Mr. Duffee had reaped some laurels in Louisville, he departed further westward, in the hope of gaining sufficient wealth to allow him to enjoy the beauties of nature he so much admired, and at the same time render him capable of assisting others, and contributing his portion to the wealth and business capital of the country. His fine business knowledge gave him confidence in himself, and his amiable habits and gentlemanly bearing gave him the facility of acquiring a position that other men would not have dared to assume.

In his business habits he was distinct from other men who enter the arena of a literary life. We find too often that men, possessed of the most splendid abilities, are mere children in the ordinary affairs of life. Like loving mothers, they gaze upon their written children, conceived by fancy, with a jealous eye; and in striving to give them that much coveted and hoped for immortality, forget the duties they owe to their own personal welfare. But not so with our author: he had been early cast upon the world, and knew its cold charity and hypocritical philanthropy. He had seen the child of genius wandering, lonely and forlorn, down life's dark path, flinging around him, as it were, "the brightest and holiest gems of thought," which were either trodden under foot

by the unfeeling crowd, or grasped by others, to swell their coffers, while their owner laid himself down to die. He had a few grains of common sense in his composition, that preserved him in a great measure from the fate of those whose ways and inclinations are after his own heart.

Mr. Duffee's first speculation was the chartering of a steamboat on the Ohio and Wabash rivers. This enterprise, we can say without wishing to pun, for a time went on swimmingly, but afterwards it ran against a snag and keeled over. This cured our friend of his nautical desires; so after discharging all liabilities, he drew on some of his eastern friends for funds to return home. When he arrived, he found sufficient places open to receive him; so mounting a clerk's stool in a broker's office, he commenced with pen in hand to rebuild what little fortune he had lost in his steamboat speculation.

In this connection he became associated with the late Henry Ewing, Esq., of Nashville, Tennessee, one of the most amiable, urbane, and business-like gentlemen with whom we ever had the pleasure of making an acquaintance. Upon Mr. Ewing's decease, which occurred three years subsequent, Mr. Duffee succeeded him as the agent of the Merchants' Insurance and Trust Company of Nashville, Tennessee. In this position, Mr. D. exhibited financial talents of the highest order, and sustained the credit of the company through a period of extraordinary pecuniary embarrassment. His conduct, however, received the highest encomiums from the Directors of the company; and, upon his resignation as agent, he was sent to Europe as the confidential agent of the Ohio Life Insurance and Trust Company, of New York, on a business mission of considerable importance, involving the settlement of a large amount of money. While there, he made the acquaintance and friendship of the principal bankers of London and Liverpool. His mission was entirely successful, and upon his return he received the most complimentary acknowledgments from the company whose interests he had so ably and faithfully represented. So much indeed were his business talents appreciated while in London, that the extensive and well known firm of Messrs. A. A. Gower, Nephews & Co. extended him unusual civilities, residing with them at their princely mansion in Finsbury Square, and receiving through their courtesy, in connection with that of Messrs. Baring, Brothers & Co., and Barnett, Hare & Co., invitations to the Lord Mayor's dinner, Windsor Castle, Buckingham Palace, the Tower, Royal Mint, and other celebrated "lions of the town." While at the Royal Mint he kindly received from the superintendent various beautiful specimens of the coinage of the kingdom.

During his entire sojourn in England, Mr. D. was entertained with marked hospitality, rendering his trip to Europe replete with the most pleasing and satisfactory reminiscences. Upon his return to Philadelphia, he made application and was immediately admitted a member of the Board of Brokers. He forthwith commenced business as a stock broker, in connection with a partner; but shortly after, the firm met with an almost ruinous loss, by the failure of a fellow-member of the board, to whom they had loaned, the preceding day, a large sum of money. Nothing daunted, but severely chagrined, Mr. D. dissolved the partnership so recently formed, and with renewed energy soon succeeded in building himself up again to his former station as a business man.

Such in fact is the peculiarity of the American character, which, cast down in one place, rises triumphant in another. There is no nation on the face of the globe that exhibits more truly heroic traits of character, in this respect, than that of the American people. We do not purpose, however, to digress; suffice it, that Mr. D. has, we learn, realized for himself and family almost a competency, by the dint of indefatigable industry. We have understood that it is one of Mr. D.'s proverbs to "owe no man, woman, or child a dollar," but always to adhere to the maxim, "Pay as you go."

We will now advert briefly to Mr. Duffee's political position, which is one of high distinction, as one of the Whig representatives of the city in the Select Council. Mr. D. owes his preferment mainly to his reputation as an energetic and persevering business man, in connection with superior intellectual attainments. He has contributed liberally to the Whig cause in a pecuniary sense, and also by the free use of his pen, in advocacy of the cause. His articles are written in a masterly manner, and give him considerable reputation. He was first taken up by the Whigs of High Street Ward, to fill an unexpired term; voted for at large by the people, and elected by a handsome majority. His subsequent course, during the period of the term for which he was elected, meeting with the marked approbation of his constituents, he was re-nominated over the President of the Select Council, and re-elected for the term of three years, the first of which has not yet expired. Mr. D. maintains, by his affable and conciliatory course, a high position in the Select Chamber. He is also a prominent member of the Finance, Police, and other committees.

In connection with Mr. D.'s career as a councilman, we clip the following from the "Wheeling Times" and "Memphis Express," which fully endorses all that we have previously remarked in regard to this gentleman's talents and business habits:—

PHILADELPHIA, February 8.

When I last wrote you, there had been no decision in our city councils respecting the Hempfield subscription, although the action of that body was, to a great extent, anticipated, in the case named. The meeting was largely attended by those interested in the welfare of our city, and in spite of opposition, the subscription was carried by a vote at once gratifying and emphatic. This result is mainly owing to the strenuous and manly course of Colonel F. H. Duffee, of the Select Council. He understands the value of the Hempfield road to Philadelphia, and understanding it, made it clear to the minds of all. He deserves well of Wheeling, and stands high in public estimation here. Young, talented, refined, and brilliant, he claims and receives admiration. And gifted with a far seeing vision, he leads the way in the new that is good, without injury to the old that is valuable. If all our councilmen were like him, New York would soon lose vantage ground at the West. But they are not, although he has infused the right spirit into many of them. He recommended the subscription in the Finance Committee, and carried double the amount there recommended through councils. His heart is right for the Marietta road, and through his exertions and untiring energy our authorities directed their delegate in the late meeting of the stockholders of the Central Pennsylvania Railroad to subscribe \$750,000 to the capital stock of

the Marietta line. We are all in the wagon now, and won't wait long for the ride. Pittsburgh growls, but that's her nature, and while she snarls about these appropriations, we have the consolation of knowing that she is allowing other things to rest.—*Wheeling Times and Gazette*.

"STEBENVILLE AND HEMPFIELD RAILROAD.—The signs are favorable now, and the election of Judge Conrad to the presidency of the company is a guaranty that the road will be finished at the earliest possible time. This community have confidence in that gentleman's abilities, judgment, and business tact, and since his election to the post named, the Finance Committee of our City Councils has recommended the appropriation of \$250,000, which sum will be voted by councils on Thursday evening next. The road is indebted, mainly, to Colonel F. H. Duffee, of the Select Council, for this recommendation, and his endorsement of such a contribution to the stock of the company by Philadelphia, is proof that the Hempfield road is one whose claims for our aid are paramount to those of the Steubenville line. He is a gentleman of sagacity, and devoted to the interests of the city and State, and if he could see that there is no sectionalism in the Steubenville line, would as readily give that road his support, as he has extended his aid to the Hempfield work.

"Pittsburgh is grasping. She don't want Philadelphia to connect with Wheeling, and expects the entire trade passing east and west to go through and pay toll in her borders."

The Philadelphia *Commercial Register* speaks as above of Judge Conrad and our esteemed friend, Colonel F. H. Duffee, of the Select Council of the city of Philadelphia. It is but a justly merited compliment to this worthy gentleman—whose reputation is not less prominent as a financial agent in the Board of Brokers of the Quaker city, than as a member of the Select Council. We had occasion lately to present him to our readers, then associating his name with that of the late Henry Ewing, Esq., of Philadelphia, formerly of Tennessee. He was the pride and boast of his friends, and confided in fully by all who knew him. Colonel Duffee enjoyed his confidence most fully—he is worthy of every good man's confidence, and of the confidential trust of the public or of individuals.—*Memphis (Tennessee) Daily Press*.

Having thus glanced briefly at the prominent points in Mr. D.'s history, both as a literary and business man, we will remark in conclusion, that within the last few years he has suffered his pen to rest from its labors, and with the exception of a sketch "now and then," seldom gives out anything to make the literary caldron "boil and bubble." His contributions to the "Beauties of Sacred Literature" have elicited much admiration in certain circles. The editor, Professor Wyatt, remarked to us that he thought that the article entitled "The Perfidy of Judas," from Mr. D.'s pen, was in reality worth the price of subscription. As a letter writer Mr. D. has frequently figured in the columns of the New York Herald, and those of other large cities.

In personal appearance Mr. Duffee is prepossessing. He is tall, well formed, with a pleasing cast of countenance. In manners, he has no use for a pocket edition of Chesterfield. In conversation, he is friendly and engaging, always endeavoring to make those around him feel sensible that

he entertains towards them both respect and esteem. He is mild in his disposition, and we should judge him to be a good friend, but rather an annoying enemy. He has been recently appointed as aid-de-camp to the Governor, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, having served several years in a cavalry company, in all ranks from private to captain in command.

He is a gentleman we both respect and admire, and it affords us pleasure to hold him up to the "rising generation," as one who has always been exemplary in all the relations of both public and private life. Such men are, indeed, the architects of their own fortunes, and command both the love and respect of the whole community.

THOMAS HARRIS,

OF PENNSYLVANIA, FORMERLY CHIEF OF BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

DR. THOMAS HARRIS, previous to his elevation to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, occupied a distinguished and well-earned professional position. With an extensive and lucrative general practice, he combined a high reputation as a surgeon, lecturer, and clinical instructor.

Dr. Harris was born in Chester county, in the State of Pennsylvania, on the 3d of January, 1784. He is the second son of the late General William Harris, who served with distinction in the war of the Revolution. His paternal grandfather, a native of Ireland, was a large landholder in the fertile valley of Chester county. In the spring of 1804 he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Davis, of the same county, and after attending the lectures at the University of Pennsylvania, obtained his degree in 1809. For three years afterwards he practised his profession in Chester county, with considerable success.

In 1812, during the war with Great Britain, he received from Mr. Madison a commission as surgeon in the navy, and joined the Wasp sloop of war, under the command of the gallant Commodore (then Commander) Jacob Jones. Hardly in the service, Dr. Harris had the good fortune to take part in one of the most brilliant actions of the war. A week after sailing from New Castle, the Wasp encountered the sloop of war Frolic, of superior force, and after an action of little more than half an hour captured her. An hour subsequently, however, both the prize and her captor fell into the hands of the Poictiers, seventy-four, which carried them into Bermuda.

Here they remained a few weeks, until they were exchanged. Upon returning home, Captain Jones, and all his officers, including, of course, Surgeon Harris, were ordered to the Macedonian frigate. The Macedonian was blockaded in New London for a year, and thence transferred to the lakes. After serving a year on the lakes in this ship, and in the fri-

gate Mohawk, Dr. Harris was again ordered to the Macedonian, Captain Jones, to form part of Decatur's squadron against Algiers. The Algerine frigate Mazouda, and a brig of war, were captured by Commodore Decatur. The Mazouda was unprovided with a surgeon, and had suffered greatly during the action. Dr. Harris was placed on board of her, where he had his hands full with amputations and other operations. After cruising among the Barbary and other ports on the Mediterranean, he returned to the United States with the squadron in the autumn of 1815.

These three years of active service gave Dr. Harris an admirable opportunity of making himself a skilful operator. He had the qualities necessary to turn his advantages to account—judgment, coolness, readiness, and dexterity—and he came out of the war with an established reputation and solid experience.

Upon returning home, Dr. Harris was placed on furlough for a year ; then ordered to the *Guerriere* at Boston, where he remained till 1817 ; and afterwards stationed at the hospital of the Navy Yard at Philadelphia. At this station he remained till 1842, with the exception of a short cruise to the West Indies in 1823. In this year he was sent, with Commodore Rodgers, at the head of a commission, to examine into the condition of the seamen suffering from yellow fever at Key West, and to report as to the eligibility of that port as a station for our squadrons. During his residence in Philadelphia, Dr. Harris has been employed in various capacities in the naval service. He was chosen to select the site for the Naval Asylum in that city, and to superintend its erection ; and has repeatedly served on the board to examine candidates for the medical corps.

With the advantage of an excellent reputation, Dr. Harris commenced the practice of his profession in Philadelphia in 1817. His success has been brilliant. In 1840, when he was compelled by ill health to relinquish active business, he was in receipt of a professional income that has seldom been reached in Philadelphia. Dr. Harris possesses, in an eminent degree, those minor qualifications for professional success, without which the strongest combination of talent and knowledge is unavailing. To an agreeable address, a pleasant flow of conversation, and a cordiality of manner, the more attractive because felt to be sincere, he unites a ready command of resources, therapeutic and dietetic, and the happy capacity of almost endlessly varying them, and adapting them to the tastes of his patients.

Dr. Harris has been, for a number of years, a lecturer on surgery. In 1823 he formed one of a private association with Doctors Hewson, Meigs, and Baché, with whom he continued till 1826, when he was appointed to lecture on surgery in the Medical Institute. His courses in this school have been eminently popular. We have never heard a better practical lecturer. His style is familiar, sometimes conversational, and his matter has the great attraction of appearing to emanate more from his own experience than the gleanings of books. Dr. Harris has long been a champion of the non-specific doctrines of syphilis, and of the anti-mercurial treatment of this disease. He devotes a considerable portion of his lectures to this subject, and defends his views ably and ingeniously.

Most of our readers will probably take issue with him on this point; at least our own opinion is that the mass of evidence, particularly the recent experiments by inoculation, tend to confirm the view of John Hunter, "that the venereal disease arises from a poison which is capable again of producing a similar disease." Dr. Harris has had much reputation in the treatment of syphilitic affections. As he pursues a strictly anti-mercurial course, his success may be fairly adduced to show that the *primary* symptoms of the disease are very manageable without mercury. In 1826 he published an elaborate memoir on this subject in the North American Medical and Surgical Journal, which was extensively copied into the European journals.

Dr. Harris was for twelve years one of the surgeons to the Pennsylvania Hospital, having held the post from 1829 to 1841, when he resigned from ill health. During this long clinical service, he has been distinguished for the success as well as the number of his operations. In 1837 he excised the elbow-joint for caries—the first time this operation was performed in this country. He amputated the tongue in two instances for hypertrophy. These cases were published in the American Journal for the years 1830 and 1837. A series of excellent clinical lectures by Dr. Harris have appeared in this journal.

Dr. Harris has contributed a number of articles to different medical periodicals. In 1821 he published a paper on "Metastasis" in the Medical Recorder, which, like the article on syphilis, went the rounds of the European journals. A life of Commodore Bainbridge, published in 1837, is extremely creditable to Dr. Harris's literary powers. This spirited sketch of the hero of the Java may fairly rank with any of our naval biographies.

After 1842, Dr. Harris was so far restored to health as to be induced again to return to practice. In 1844 he was selected by the Government for the responsible post of chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. This was an office altogether unsolicited on his part, but the high position he had taken in the medical corps of the navy, as well as his distinguished professional reputation in the country, naturally pointed him out as the most proper person to be called to the head of the corps. He discharged the duties thus devolved upon him, with what success the service and the country will bear witness.

HORACE MANN,

FORMERLY OF MASSACHUSETTS, NOW PRESIDENT OF ANTIOCH COLLEGE
AT YELLOW SPRINGS, GREENE COUNTY, OHIO.

HORACE MANN was born in the town of Franklin, Norfolk county, Massachusetts, May 4, 1796. His father, Mr. Thomas Mann, supported his family by cultivating a small farm. He died when the subject of this memoir was thirteen years of age, leaving him little besides the example

of an upright life, virtuous inculcations, and hereditary thirst for knowledge.

His only surviving sister, Miss Lydia B. Mann, crowns a life of benevolent exertion by devoting her time and energies almost gratuitously, as principal of a school for poor colored children, in Providence, R. I. Silver and gold has she none; but her labors, her influence, her life, she gives to the poor.

The narrow circumstances of the father limited the educational advantages of his children. They were taught in the district common school; and it was the misfortune of the family that it belonged to the smallest district, had the poorest schoolhouse, and employed the cheapest teachers, in a town which was itself both small and poor. When the obscure boy of this obscure school afterwards became Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Education, it is well known with what earnestness he used to dwell upon the importance of schoolhouse architecture, and with what graphic touches of description he would paint the houses which had never been *painted* in fact. Doubtless, many of his pictures were drawn, not from fancy, but from memory. That old weather-beaten and time-stricken house, with its curtainless, blindless, and sometimes its almost paneless windows, illustrated a kind of ventilation which he might well call "preternatural." Its rude, high, and backless seats made "the verb *to sit* an active verb." The wide-throated chimney, creating when in full blast a tropical heat around the fire-place, while at the distance of ten feet on either side the cold was almost arctic, furnished a "fine opportunity for geographical illustration, because five steps would carry one through the five zones." In winter, the congealing of the ink in his pen while he was writing, perhaps furnished him with the anecdote of the boy who excused himself from the non-production of his composition, by assuring the master that "though his ideas might flow his ink wouldn't;" while in summer it was "the lone hermit-house standing out of sight and hearing of any fellow-tree." He has somewhere described a schoolhouse "the roof of which, on one side, was trough-like; and down towards the eaves there was a large hole, so that the whole operated like a funnel to catch all the rain and pour it into the school-room." "At first," says he, "I did not know but it might be some apparatus designed to explain the deluge. I called and inquired of the mistress if she and her little ones were not sometimes drowned out. She said she should be, only that the floor leaked as badly as the roof, and drained off the water."

His father was a man of feeble health, and died of consumption. Horace inherited weak lungs, and from the age of twenty to thirty years he just skirted the fatal shores of that disease on which his father had been wrecked. This inherited weakness, accompanied by a high nervous temperament, and aggravated by a want of judicious physical training in early life, gave him a sensitiveness of organization and a keenness of susceptibility, which nothing but the iron clamps of habitual self-restraint could ever have controlled. As the apostle of education, he has often illustrated the responsibilities of other teachers by the shortcomings of his own. At that time, however, few families were brought up advisedly on physiological principles. If the great laws of health and life were anywhere kept, it was the result of a happy accident and not of applied science. The dreadful consequences of that universal ignorance are now

stamped upon every feature of society. The census of the nation can alone present us with the full number of its victims. The blessings of health have been so extensively forfeited by bad training, that it is now rare to find the health that is a blessing.

His mother, whose maiden name was Stanley, was a woman of superior intellect and character. In her mind, the flash of intuition superseded the slow processes of ratiocination. Results always ratified her predictions. She was a true mother. On her list of duties and of pleasures her children stood first, the world and herself afterwards. She was able to impart but little of the details of knowledge; but she did a greater work than this, by imparting the principles by which all knowledge should be guided.

Mr. Mann's early life was spent in a rural district, in an obscure county town, without the appliance of excitements or opportunity for display. In a letter before us, written long ago to a friend, he says:

"I regard it as an irretrievable misfortune that my childhood was not a happy one. By nature I was exceedingly elastic and buoyant, but the poverty of my parents subjected me to continual privations. I believe in the rugged nursing of Toil, but she nursed me too much. In the winter time, I was employed in in-door and sedentary occupations, which confined me too strictly; and in summer, when I could work on the farm, the labor was too severe, and often encroached upon the hours of sleep. I do not remember the time when I began to work. Even my play-days,—not play-days, for I never had any,—but my play-hours were earned by extra exertion, finishing tasks early to gain a little leisure for boyish sports. My parents sinned ignorantly, but God affixes the same physical penalties to the violation of His laws, whether that violation be wilful or ignorant. For wilful violation, there is the added penalty of remorse, and that is the only difference. Here let me give you two pieces of advice which shall be *gratis* to you, though they cost me what is of more value than diamonds. Train your children to work, though not too hard; and unless they are grossly lymphatic, let them sleep as much as they will. I have derived one compensation, however, from the rigor of my early lot. Industry, or diligence, became my second nature, and I think it would puzzle any psychologist to tell where it joined on to the first. Owing to these ingrained habits, work has always been to me what water is to a fish. I have wondered a thousand times to hear people say, 'I don't like this business;' or, 'I wish I could exchange for that;' for with me, whenever I have had anything to do, I do not remember ever to have demurred, but have always set about it like a fatalist; and it was as sure to be done as the sun is to set.

"What was called the love of knowledge was, in my time, necessarily cramped into a love of books; because there was no such thing as oral instruction. Books designed for children were few, and their contents meagre and miserable. My teachers were very good people, but they were very poor teachers. Looking back to the school-boy days of my mates and myself, I cannot adopt the line of Virgil,

'O fortunatos nimium sua si bona norint.'

I deny the *bona*. With the infinite universe around us, all ready to be

daguerreotyped upon our souls, we were never placed at the right focus to receive its glorious images. I had an intense natural love of beauty, and of its expression in nature and in the fine arts. As 'a poet was in Murray lost,' so at least an amateur poet, if not an artist, was lost in me. How often, when a boy, did I stop, like Akenside's hind, to gaze at the glorious sunset; and lie down upon my back, at night, on the earth, to look at the heavens. Yet with all our senses and our faculties glowing and receptive, how little were we taught; or rather, how much obstruction was thrust in between us and nature's teachings. Our eyes were never trained to distinguish forms and colors. Our ears were strangers to music. So far from being taught the art of drawing, which is a beautiful language by itself, I well remember that when the impulse to express in pictures what I could not express in words was so strong that, as Cowper says, it tingled down to my fingers, then my knuckles were rapped with the heavy ruler of the teacher, or cut with his rod, so that an artificial tingling soon drove away the natural. Such youthful buoyancy as even severity could not repress was our only dancing master. Of all our faculties, the memory for words was the only one specially appealed to. The most comprehensive generalizations of men were given us, instead of the facts from which those generalizations were formed. All ideas outside of the book were contraband articles, which the teacher confiscated, or rather flung overboard. Oh, when the intense and burning activity of youthful faculties shall find employment in salutary and pleasing studies or occupations, then will parents be able to judge better of the alleged proneness of children to mischief. Until then, children have not a fair trial before their judges.

"Yet, with these obstructions, I had a love of knowledge which nothing could repress. An inward voice raised its plaint for ever in my heart for something nobler and better. And if my parents had not the means to give me knowledge, they intensified the love of it. They always spoke of learning and learned men with enthusiasm and a kind of reverence. I was taught to take care of the few books we had, as though there was something sacred about them. I never dogseared one in my life, nor profanely scribbled upon title pages, margin or fly-leaf, and would as soon have stuck a pin through my flesh as through the pages of a book. When very young, I remember a young lady came to our house on a visit, who was said to have studied Latin. I looked upon her as a sort of goddess. Years after, the idea that I could ever study Latin broke upon my mind with the wonder and bewilderment of a revelation. Until the age of fifteen I had never been to school more than eight or ten weeks in a year.

"I said we had but few books. The town, however, owned a small library. When incorporated, it was named after Dr. Franklin, whose reputation was then not only at its zenith, but, like the sun over Gibeon, was standing still there. As an acknowledgment of the compliment, he offered them a bell for their church, but afterwards saying that, from what he had learned of the character of the people, he thought they would prefer sense to sound, he changed the gift into a library. Though this library consisted of old histories and theologies, suited perhaps to the taste of the 'conscript fathers' of the town, but miserably adapted to the 'proscript' children, yet I wasted my youthful ardor upon its

martial pages, and learned to glory in war, which both reason and conscience have since taught me to consider almost universally a crime. Oh, when will men learn to redeem that childhood in their offspring which was lost to themselves! We watch for the seed-time for our fields and improve it, but neglect the mind until midsummer or even autumn comes, when all the *activism* of the vernal sun of youth is gone. I have endeavored to do something to remedy this criminal defect. Had I the power, I would scatter libraries over the whole land, as the sower sows his wheat field.

“More than by toil or by the privation of any natural taste, was the inward joy of my youth blighted by theological inculcations. The pastor of the church in Franklin was the somewhat celebrated Dr. Emmons, who not only preached to his people, but ruled them for more than fifty years. He was an extra or hyper-Calvinist—a man of pure intellect, whose logic was never softened in its severity by the infusion of any kindness of sentiment. He expounded all the doctrines of total depravity, election, and reprobation, and not only the eternity but the extremity of hell torments, unflinchingly and in their most terrible significance, while he rarely if ever descanted upon the joys of heaven, and never, to my recollection, upon the essential and necessary happiness of a virtuous life. Going to church on Sunday was a sort of religious ordinance in our family, and during all my boyhood I hardly ever remember staying at home. Hence, at ten years of age, I became familiar with the whole creed, and knew all the arts of theological fence by which objections to it were wont to be parried. It might be that I accepted the doctrines too literally, or did not temper them with the proper qualifications, but in the way in which they came to my youthful mind, a certain number of souls were to be for ever lost, and nothing, not powers, nor principalities, nor man, nor angel, nor Christ, nor the Holy Spirit, nay, not God Himself could save them, for He had sworn before time was to get eternal glory out of their eternal torment. But, perhaps, I might not be one of the lost! But my little sister might be; my mother might be; or others whom I loved; and I felt that if they were in hell, it would make a hell of whatever other part of the universe I might inhabit, for I could never get a glimpse of consolation from the idea that my own nature could be so transformed, and become so like what God’s was said to be, that I too could rejoice in their sufferings.

“Like all children, I believed what I was taught. To my vivid imagination, a physical hell was a living reality, as much so as though I could have heard the shrieks of the tormented, or stretched out my hand to grasp their burning souls, in a vain endeavor for their rescue. Such a faith spread a pall of blackness over the whole heavens, shutting out every beautiful and glorious thing, while beyond that curtain of darkness I could see the bottomless and seething lake filled with torments, and hear the wailing and agony of its victims. I am sure I felt all this a thousand times more than my teachers did, and is not this a warning to teachers?

“What we phrenologists call causality—the faculty of mind by which we see effects in causes, and causes in effects, and invest the future with a present reality—this faculty was always intensely active in my mind. Hence the doom of the judgment day was ante-dated; the torments

which, as the doctrine taught me, were to begin with death, began immediately, and each moment became a burning focus on which were concentrated, as far as the finiteness of my nature would allow, the agonies of the coming eternity.

"Had there been any possibility of escape, could penance, fasting, self-inflicted wounds, or the pains of a thousand martyr-deaths, have averted the fate, my agony of apprehension would have been alleviated ; but there, beyond effort, beyond virtue, beyond hope, was this irreversible decree of Jehovah, immutable, from everlasting to everlasting. The judgment had been made up and entered upon the eternal record millions of years before we, who were judged by it, had been born ; and there sat the Omnipotent upon His throne with eyes and heart of stone to guard it ; and had all the beings in all the universe gathered themselves together before Him to implore but the erasure of only a single name from the list of the doomed, their prayers would have been in vain.

"I shall not now enter into any theological disquisition on these matters, infinitely momentous as they are. I shall not stop to inquire into the soundness of these doctrines, or whether I held the truth in error, my only object here being, according to your request, to speak of my youth biographically, or give you a sketch of some of my juvenile experiences. The consequences upon my mind and happiness were disastrous in the extreme. Often, on going to bed at night, did the objects of the day and the faces of friends give place to a vision of the awful throne, the inexorable Judge, and the hapless myriads, among whom I often seemed to see those whom I loved best, and there I wept and sobbed until nature found that counterfeit repose in exhaustion whose genuine reality she should have found in freedom from care and the spontaneous happiness of childhood. What seems most deplorable in the retrospect, all these fears and sufferings, springing from a belief in the immutability of the decrees that had been made, never prompted me to a single good action, or had the slightest efficacy in deterring me from a bad one. I remained in this condition of mind until I was twelve years of age. I remember the day, the hour, the place, the circumstances, as well as though the event had happened but yesterday, when, in an agony of despair, I broke the spell that had bound me. From that day, I began to construct the theory of Christian ethics and doctrine respecting virtue and vice, rewards and penalties, time and eternity, God and His providence, which, with such modifications as advancing age and a wider vision must impart, I still retain, and out of which my life has flowed. I have come round again to a belief in the eternity of rewards and punishments, as a fact necessarily resulting from the constitution of our nature ; but how infinitely different in its effects upon conduct, character, and happiness, is this belief from that which blasted and consumed the joy of my childhood !

"As to my early habits, whatever may have been my shortcomings, I can still say that I have always been exempt from what may be called common vices. I was never intoxicated in my life—unless, perchance, with joy or anger. I never swore—indeed profanity was always most disgusting and repulsive to me. And (I consider it always a climax) I never used the 'vile weed' in any form. I early formed the resolution to be a slave to no habit. For the rest, my public life is almost as well known

to others as to myself; and, as it commonly happens to public men, *others know my motives a great deal better than I do.*"

Mr. Mann's father having died when he was thirteen years of age, he remained with his mother on the homestead until he was twenty. But an irrepressible yearning for knowledge still held possession of him. "I know not how it was," said he to a friend in after life, "its motive never took the form of wealth or fame. It was rather an instinct which impelled towards knowledge, as that of migratory birds impels them northward in spring time. All my boyish castles in the air had reference to doing something for the benefit of mankind. The early precepts of benevolence, inculcated upon me by my parents, flowed out in this direction; and I had a conviction that knowledge was my needed instrument."

A fortunate accident gave opportunity and development to this passion. An itinerant schoolmaster, named Samuel Barrett, came into his neighborhood and opened a school. This man was eccentric and abnormal both in appetites and faculties. He would teach a school for six months, tasting nothing stronger than tea, though in this Dr. Johnson was a model of temperance compared with him, and then for another six months, more or less, he would travel the country in a state of beastly drunkenness, begging cider, or anything that would intoxicate, from house to house, and sleeping in barns or styes, until the paroxysm had passed by. Then he would be found clothed, and sitting in his right mind, and obtain another school.

Mr. Barrett's speciality was English grammar, and Greek and Latin. In the dead languages, as far as he pretended to know anything, he seemed to know everything. All his knowledge, too, was committed to memory. In hearing recitations from Virgil, Cicero, the Greek Testament, and other classical works then usually studied as a preparation for college, he never took a book into his hand. Not the sentiments only, but the sentences, in the transposed order of their words, were as familiar to him as his A, B, C, and he would as soon have missed a letter out of the alphabet, as article or particle out of the lesson. When a sentence in the *Æneid*, or in the Oration for the poet Archias (which was his favorite), had been torn and mangled by a bad recitation, it was grateful to hear him repeat it all over to himself, in the most soothing and motherly voice, as though he would bind up and heal its wounded and dislocated parts. Sometimes he would *croon* off (as the Scotch would say) page after page of the author, winding up each paragraph with such an inarticulate chuckle of delight, as only a very fat man like him could give. It must have been to him that Mr. Mann referred, when in his controversy with the "Thirty-one Boston Schoolmasters," he speaks of the inspiring effect of a teacher's knowledge upon the progress of his pupils. "I know that this ability of his inspired *one* of his pupils, at least, with sentiments of respect towards him, with conceptions of excellence, and with an ardor for attainment, such as all the places and prizes ever bestowed, and a life of floggings into the bargain, could never have imparted. I well remember that when I encountered a difficulty either in translation or syntax, and was ready to despair of success in overcoming it, the mere thought *how easy that would be to my teacher*, seemed not only to invigorate my effort, but to give me an enlargement of power, so that I could return to the charge and triumph."

This learned Mr. Barrett was learned in languages alone. In arithmetic he was an idiot. He never could commit the multiplication table to memory, and did not know enough to date a letter or tell the time of day by the clock.

In this chance school Mr. Mann first saw a Latin grammar; but it was the *Veni, vidi, vici* of Cæsar. Having obtained a reluctant consent from his guardian to prepare for college, with six months of schooling he learned his grammar, read Corderius, Æsop's Fables, the Æneid, with parts of the Georgics and Bucolies, Cicero's Select Orations, the Four Gospels, and part of the Epistles in Greek, parts of the Græca Majora and Minora, and entered the Sophomore class of Brown University, Providence, in September, 1816.

With this hurried preparation, it was of course impossible to obtain that critical knowledge of syntax, or that acquaintance with collateral works, without which the study of the ancient languages confers but little other benefit than an enlargement of one's stock of words, and a general improvement of the diction. He could not then foresee the opportunity (which was soon, however, to occur) for making up these deficiencies; and he therefore determined to supply them at once by extra study. This addition to the performance of ordinary tasks prompted the very extremity of self-imposed labor. Under the burning stimuli, too, which entering upon new fields of knowledge supplied, he forgot all idea of bodily limitations to mental effort; and at the end of his first college year he found himself utterly prostrated by illness, from which neither the resuscitative energies of nature, nor all the care which his laborious life has since allowed him to take, have ever enabled him to recover. What strength he has since possessed has been only the salvage on a wreck. How sad the fate of students in our colleges and universities! Taken from the guidance and care of home, exposed to the temptation of vice on the one side, and of ambition on the other, finding abundant and delightful instruction in languages and in science, but no counsel, no direction, no knowledge, in the art of arts—the great art of Living—how often do those of vicious susceptibilities plunge into vice, while those of ambitious aspirations ruin health in the pursuit of knowledge. Thus many genial and companionable natures are turned into profligates, while the lofty-minded and emulous are broken down by disease.

Illness compelled him to leave his class for a short period; and again he was absent in the winter to keep school as a resource for paying college bills. Yet when his class graduated in 1819, the first part or "Honor" in the commencement exercises was awarded to him, with the unanimous approval of faculty and classmates. The theme of his oration on graduating foreshadowed the history of his life. It was on the Progressive Character of the Human Race. With youthful enthusiasm he portrayed that higher condition of human society when education shall develop the people into loftier proportions of wisdom and virtue, when philanthropy shall succor the wants and relieve the woes of the race, and when free institutions shall abolish that oppression and war which have hitherto debarred nations from ascending into realms of grandeur and happiness. For an obscure young man, known only by the merits he had evinced and the hopes he inspired, it was an occasion of no inconsiderable éclat.

The strongest original tendencies of character are usually shown in early manhood, before cautiousness has been trained by worldly discipline to take the lead in action. Those who knew Mr. Mann in college, and have watched him since, know how true this is in his case. He was a marked man among his young associates; marked and remembered for those peculiarities of character which have distinguished him ever since: first, bold and original thinking, which led him to investigate subjects without veneration for anything but the truth and right that he found in them; second, a horror of cant and sham which made him attack, with invective and satire, all who resorted to them for selfish purposes.

The boldness and force with which he has manifested these two peculiarities have kept out of the sight of the indiscriminating many the third peculiarity, which is an uncommon activity and acuteness of the religious sense. Hence it is that, while many, in their technical sense, may not call him a religious man, in the highest sense he is truly and eminently religious. Ever searching for the laws of the natural and moral world, and referring them as fast as found to God, he pays to them and their Author the true worship of obedience and veneration. This is done in matters the most minute. He sees not only Ten Commandments, but ten thousand. Hence the delicacy of his moral sense; hence his uniform and stern purity of life; hence his uncompromising hostility to the impiousness and sin of immorality of any kind, or by whomsoever committed.

Immediately after commencement (indeed some six weeks before, and immediately after the final examination of his class, so that no time might be lost; for the law then required three years' reading in a lawyer's office, or rather three years to be spent in a lawyer's office without any reference to reading), he entered his name in the office of the Hon. J. J. Fiske, of Wrentham, as a student at law. He had spent here, however, only a few months when he was invited back to college as a tutor in Latin and Greek. This proposal he was induced to accept for two reasons: first, it would lighten his burden of indebtedness (for he was living on borrowed money); and, second, it would afford the opportunity he so much desired of revising and extending his classical studies. Everybody knows, that, other things being equal, the studious teacher will learn faster than it is possible for the most studious pupil to do.

He now devoted himself most assiduously to Latin and Greek, and the instructions given to his class were characterized by two peculiarities, whose value all will admit, though so few have realized. In addition to rendering the sense of the author, and a knowledge of syntactical rules, he always demanded a translation in the most elegant, choice, and euphonious language. He taught his Latin classes to look through the whole list of synonymes given in the Latin-English dictionary, and to select from among them all, the one which would convey the author's idea in the most expressive, graphic, and elegant manner, rendering military terms by military terms, nautical by nautical, the language of rulers in language of majesty and command, of suppliants by words of entreaty, and so forth. This method improves diction surprisingly. The student can almost feel his organ of language grow under its training; at any rate, he can see from month to month that it has grown. The other particular referred to, consisted in elucidating the text by geo-

graphical, biographical, and historical references, thus opening the mind of the student to a vast fund of collateral knowledge, and making use of the great mental law, that it is easier to remember two or even ten associated ideas, than either of them alone.

Though liberal in granting indulgences to his class, yet he was inexorable in demanding correct recitations. However much of privation or pain the getting of a lesson might cost, yet it was generally got *as the lesser evil*. One day a student asked the steward of the college what he was going to do with some medicinal preparation he had. "Mr. So and So," said the steward, "has a violent attack of fever, and I am going to give him a sweat." "If you want to give him a sweat," said the inquirer, "send him into our recitation room without his lesson."

While in college, Mr. Mann had excelled in scientific studies. He now had an opportunity to improve himself in classical culture. A comparison of the two convinced him how infinitely inferior in value, not only as an attainment, but as a means of mental discipline, is heathen mythology to modern science; the former consisting of the imaginations of man, the latter of the handiwork of God.

In the latter part of 1821, having resigned his tutorship, he entered the law school at Litchfield, Connecticut, then at the zenith of its reputation under the late Judge Gould. Here he remained rather more than a year, devoting himself with great assiduity to the study of the law under that distinguished jurist. Leaving Litchfield, he entered the office of the Hon. James Richardson, of Dedham, where, as they say in London, he finished "eating his terms," and was admitted a member of the Norfolk bar, in December, 1823. He immediately opened an office in Dedham. Shakspeare makes the "law's delay" one of the causes of suicide; but if lawyers provoke suicide among their clients, by delaying their suits after they are obtained, do not the clients provoke suicide among the lawyers first, by delaying to give them the suits? Mr. Mann's lot in this respect was the common one. But absence of business gave opportunity for study; and instead of performing the drudgery of attending to particular cases, he expended himself in mastering great principles, which, in his subsequent professional life, were always brought to bear with such success upon the point in controversy. Before a court or an intelligent jury, there is an immense difference between the method of groping round to see where an individual case can lay hold of some great principle for support, and that of first giving an imposing and instructive exposition of great principles, and then applying them to the case in hand. The man who has mastered principles, when brought into conflict with one who has not, can always think outside of his opponent.

At length, however, an opportunity was offered to Mr. Mann to display his powers as an advocate, and from that time business flowed in in a more copious stream, until he left the profession in 1837.

We believe the records of the courts will show that, during the fourteen years of his forensic practice, he gained at least four out of five of all the contested cases in which he was engaged. The inflexible rule of his professional life was, never to undertake a case that he did not believe to be right. He held that an advocate loses his highest power when he loses the ever-conscious conviction that he is contending for the truth;

that though the fees or fame may be a stimulus, yet that a conviction of being right is itself *creative* of power, and renders its possessor more than a match for antagonists otherwise greatly his superior. He used to say that in this conscious conviction of right there was a magnetism, and he only wanted an opportunity to be *put in communication* with a jury in order to impregnate them with his own belief. Beyond this, his aim always was, before leaving any head or topic in his argument, to condense its whole force into a vivid epigrammatic point, which the jury could not help remembering when they got into the jury room; and by graphic illustration and simile to fasten pictures upon their minds, which they would retain and reproduce after abstruse arguments were forgotten. He endeavored to give to each one of the jurors something to be "quoted" on his side, when they retired for consultation. He argued his cases as though he were in the jury room itself, taking part in the deliberations that were to be held there. From the confidence in his honesty, and these pictures with which he filled the air of the jury room, came his uncommon success.

In 1824 the citizens of Dedham invited him to ascend the rostrum as a fourth of July orator, a low platform to which the friends of young men in this country always raise them, that they may have one chance, at least, to show their mental stature. In 1826 he delivered a eulogy on the deceased presidents, Adams and Jefferson, who, as everybody will remember, died on the 4th of July of that year; or rather lived till the 4th of July; for had the great anniversary come on the third or second of the month, they would doubtless have died on its arrival. They illustrated what is undoubtedly true, that life, to some extent, is the subject of direct human volition.

In 1830 Mr. Mann was married to Miss Charlotte, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Dr. Messer, for many years President of Brown University. Than this lady, a lovelier being never gladdened the earth with her existence. Moulded in form and in feature after the choicest ideal of the painter or the statuary, her person was a fit temple for the spirit by whose residence it was hallowed. She was educated in the repose of a family circle, over the sunshine of whose domestic affections a cloud was never known to pass. She was exuberant in the spontaneous joy of a spirit that had never felt an ungenerous or an unworthy emotion. Those who had known her longest and best, who had laid their ear closest to her heart to listen to the sweet music with which it was forever vocal, all say with one voice, they never heard from it a discordant tone. Under no provocation did a word of envy, of rivalry, or of unkindness ever pass from her lips. Her presence was the exorcism of evil, and her look, so radiant of purity and loveliness and peace, was not an emotion merely, but a sensation of calm and of holy joy. Was this boon of heaven unnatural to the earth, that it was so soon withdrawn? She died August 1, 1832, and the celestial light which she had shed upon her earthly friends can never be restored until they meet her glorified spirit in another life.

The manner in which he was affected by her death shows most strikingly the depth and strength of his affections. He was then in the prime and vigor of manhood, known and admired in the highest circles; but he would not be comforted nor weaned from the memory of his lost

love. He would work for the living and give them all his strength and his talents, but he would give his affections to the dead alone. There was something touching in his long loyalty. For years he wore the trappings of woe, and when, in conformity to custom, they were laid aside, their abandonment betokened no lightening of the shadow within. For more than ten years, those who knew him intimately enough to divine the cause of the sadness which seldom expressed itself in words, could say, in view of his unfading affection for her whose image was fading from the memory of others,

“Oh! what are thousand living loves
To one that will not quit the dead?”

In 1843 he married Miss Mary Peabody, in whom he found not only a most affectionate and worthy companion, but an earnest assistant and sympathizer in all his educational labors.

We have now spoken of Mr. Mann as a lawyer, but from his entry upon the stage of life, he exercised his influence and exerted his powers in so many different fields of labor, that we are obliged, as it were, to write several biographies of him; that is, to go over his life several times, collecting different classes of events under distinct heads.

In 1827 he was elected a representative to the General Court for the town of Dedham.

We may as well remark here as anywhere, that Mr. Mann was never a political partisan. He loved truth better than he loved any party. He was not of age to vote until those “piping times of peace” which ushered in Mr. Monroe’s administration. At that period, and for more than four years after, he was absent from the State either as student or tutor in Providence College; the succeeding twelve or fifteen months he spent at Litchfield, Connecticut, at the law school; so that the first political contest in which he ever had an opportunity to take an active part was that of Mr. Adams, as President, in 1824. He espoused the cause of Mr. Adams, and strenuously defended him against the charges of “bargain and corruption,” then so vehemently made, now so universally disbelieved. From that time Mr. Mann voted for National Republicans, or Whigs, as they were successively called; but in his legislative and subsequent life, always advocated or opposed measures on their merits, and without reference to the party which introduced them. It is worthy of remark, that among all his speeches and writings, touching as they do almost the whole circle of moral, social, and economical subjects, not a single partisan speech or partisan newspaper article of his is anywhere to be found, and for the best of reasons, for he never made or wrote one.

His first speech in the Massachusetts House of Representatives was in favor of religious liberty. For many years, the legislation of Massachusetts, together with the decisions of the Supreme Court, and a change in the Constitution of the State, had tended to put all religious opinions on a footing of entire equality before the law. In consequence of these events, a scheme had been projected for the creation of estates in a kind of mortmain, vesting them in a corporate body of trustees, perpetually renewable by itself,—what is called a close corporation,—and limiting the

income of the property for ever to the support of a particular creed, or set of doctrines. Mr. Mann was too well read in the ecclesiastical history of Europe, and especially of England, not to see that this was an attempt to transfer one of the worst institutions of the dark ages bodily into the nineteenth century. He was one of the youngest members of the house; this was his first term. Similar charters of incorporation had been granted within the two or three preceding years; another had been reported by the appropriate committee, and no token of opposing it had been given. Opposition, therefore, might well seem desperate, and an attempt to thwart the purposes of the most powerful religious body in the State would have been deemed by time-servers an act of useless hardihood and recklessness. But to an honest man, conscious of being morally, and convinced of being intellectually right, resistance to wrong, however formidable the shapes it may assume, is easy. We think upright men often receive undue credit for moral courage. For a thoroughly upright man to do right, is the easiest thing in the world. The hard thing for him would be to do wrong. When the bill came up, Mr. Mann, unexpectedly to every one, arose. In an earnest and solemn manner, he laid down the great principles of religious freedom and equality, and exposed the injustice of carving out and setting aside any portion of the earth, or any portion of the property of the earth, and determining by law what particular religious creed or doctrine that property should be made the instrument of upholding through all future time. He showed that it was the very essence of bigotry, in all nations and at all times, to arrest religious progress and petrify religious opinions at the point where the bigot happened to find them. The result was decisive. Not only was the bill rejected, but no attempt at a similar measure has since, at any time, been made in Massachusetts.

His second effort was a speech in behalf of railroads. A report of this was printed in some of the Boston papers, and we believe it was the first printed speech made in any legislative body in the United States, in behalf of a policy which has since worked such wonders for the country at large, and has secured to his native State nearly one half of its present population, and doubtless quite one half of its present wealth. After this speech was made, one of the most prominent of his Dedham fellow-citizens wrote several articles for the newspapers against Mr. Mann, for having advocated a policy which, as he predicted, would be the ruin of the small towns in the vicinity of Boston. Had that gentleman left Dedham, after writing those articles, to return to it now, he would hardly know it, so wonderfully has it advanced in wealth, numbers, and improvement of all kinds, in consequence of the system which he condemned, but Mr. Mann's foresight counselled.

From this time, Mr. Mann became a conspicuous and leading member of the House. He was appointed on many of its principal committees (the judiciary, &c.), and took an active part in the discussion of all important questions. Especially all matters pertaining to morals, to public charities, to education, and whatever involved the principles of civil and religious liberty, were sure to find in him a champion always ready and earnest.

His voice was ever raised in behalf of the poor, the ignorant, and the unfortunate classes of society.

He advocated laws for improving the system of common schools.

He, more than any other man, was the means of procuring the enactment of what was called the "Fifteen Gallon Law," for the suppression of intemperance,—a law which would have effected the work of reform in Massachusetts but for the defection of a few politicians, who sacrificed the cause of morality for partisan success.

He was a member of the committee who reported the resolves which subsequently resulted in the codification of the statute laws of Massachusetts.

He took a leading part in preparing and carrying through the law whose stringent provisions for a long time, and almost effectually, broke up the traffic in lottery tickets. The evils and the abominations of the lottery traffic being chiefly of a moral kind, are seen and felt most keenly by men of high moral sense, while they escape the notice of those who are only technically moral and religious. Hence lotteries are not only tolerated in many Christian countries, but openly encouraged; nay, they are managed, or mismanaged, by many governments; and at Rome they are publicly drawn with church ceremonial and blessing in the presence of the deluded crowd of gamblers who fill the square.

It was against the immorality of this and kindred institutions that Mr. Mann has been wont to draw from the full armory of his mind the fiery bolts of a moral indignation; for to him immorality is irreligion; and immoral men are the enemies of his God, as well as of his fellow-creatures. With this key to his character, one can find the purpose, unseen of many, which has animated him in his attacks upon men and measures, and roused him to deal blows which some have condemned as severe and merciless. It is to be borne in mind that the very earnestness and intensity of nature which have enabled him to build up and establish so many good works, incapacitate him from compromising with wrong, or striking softly at wrong doers. Few have ever objected to the rigor and fire of his onslaught until he happened to attack some pet gratification of their own. A calm review of his controversial writings will show that he never lost sight of moral principles or stooped to low aims even in the heat and excitement of controversy.

But the act by which Mr. Mann most signalized his legislative life in the House of Representatives was the establishment of the State Lunatic Hospital of Worcester. This benevolent enterprise was conceived, sustained, and carried through the House by him alone, against the apathy and indifference of many, and the direct opposition of some prominent men. He moved the appointment of the original committee of inquiry, and made its report, drew up and reported the resolve for erecting the hospital, and his was the only speech made in its favor.

One of the most distinguished members of the House, a gentleman who has since filled one of the most responsible offices in the State, spoke of the measure when first introduced as "a project of boyish enthusiasm." Mr. Mann was chairman of the committee appointed to make the preliminary inquiries. After the law was passed, he was appointed chairman of the Board of Commissioners to contract for and superintend the erection of the Hospital. When the buildings were completed, in 1833, he was appointed chairman of the Board of Trustees for administering the institution, and remained on the Board until rotated out of office by the provisions of the law which governed it.

The execution of this great work illustrated those characteristics of the subject of this memoir which have signalized his life. The novelty and costliness of the enterprise demanded boldness. Its motive sprung from his benevolence. Its completion without loss or failure illustrated his foresight. It was arranged that no ardent spirits should ever be used on the work, and the whole edifice was completed without accident or injury to any workman. The expenditure of so large a sum as fifty thousand dollars without overrunning appropriations proved his recognition of accountability. The selection of so remarkable a man as Dr. Woodward for the superintendent showed his knowledge of character. And the success which, after twenty years of experience, has finally crowned the work, denotes that highest kind of statesmanship, which holds the succor of human wants and the alleviation of human woes to be an integral and indispensable, as it is a most economical part of the duties of a paternal government. That Hospital has served as a model for many similar institutions in other States and countries, which, through the benevolent influence of its widely known success, have been erected because that was erected.

At first the Hospital was opposed and its author ridiculed; but it is remarkable that during the many years Mr. Mann was connected with it, the Legislature of Massachusetts never refused a single appropriation which was asked for by the Trustees in its behalf.

In claiming this degree of merit for Mr. Mann, we know that injustice would be done to his feelings were not great credit given to his coadjutors in the work. Associated with him for erecting and organizing the institution, were the Hon. Wm. B. Calhoun of Springfield, and the Hon. B. Taft of Uxbridge, gentlemen of the highest character for intelligence and wisdom. It must also be admitted that no amount of knowledge, prudence, or sagacity, in any supervising board of trustees, could ever have given to the institution the elevated rank it has so deservedly held, or enabled it to accomplish the immense amount of good it has achieved, without that most remarkable combination of excellences, any one of which would have made a reputation for a common man, of which its superintendent, Doctor Woodward, was the universally acknowledged possessor.

In 1838, as a token of regard for establishing this hospital, Doctor Ray, now superintendent of the Hospital for the Insane at Providence, R. I., dedicated his admirable "Treatise on the Medical Jurisprudence of Insanity" to Mr. Mann.

We subjoin a sketch of Mr. Mann's speech in behalf of the resolve for establishing the Hospital, which is taken from a contemporary newspaper:—

"Mr. Mann, of Dedham, requested the attention of the House to the numbers, condition, and necessities of the insane within this Commonwealth, and to the consideration of the means by which their sufferings might be altogether prevented, or at least assuaged. On reviewing our legislation upon this subject, he could not claim for it the praise either of policy or humanity. In 1816 it was made the duty of the Supreme Court, when a grand jury had refused to indict, or the jury of trials to convict any person, by reason of his insanity or mental derangement, to commit such person to prison, there to be kept until his enlargement

should be deemed compatible with the safety of the citizens, or until some friend should procure his release by becoming responsible for all damages which, in his insanity, he might commit.

"Had the human mind been tasked to devise a mode of aggravating to the utmost the calamities of the insane, a more apt expedient could scarcely have been suggested; or had the earth been searched, places more inauspicious to their recovery could scarcely have been found.

"He cast no reflection upon the keepers of our jails, houses of correction, and poor houses, as humane men, when he said, that as a class they were eminently disqualified to have the supervision and management of the insane. The superintendent of the insane should not only be a humane man, but a man of science; he should not only be a physician, but a mental philosopher. An alienated mind should be touched only by a skilful hand. Great experience and knowledge were necessary to trace the causes that first sent it devious into the wilds of insanity; to counteract the disturbing forces, to restore it again to harmonious action. None of all these requisites could we command under the present system.

"But the place was no less unsuitable than the management. In a prison little attention could be bestowed upon the bodily comforts and less upon the mental condition of the insane. They are shut out from the cheering and healing influences of the external world. They are cut off from the kind regard of society and friends. The construction of their cells often debars them from light and air. With fire they cannot be trusted. Madness strips them of their clothing. If there be any recuperative energies of mind, suffering suspends or destroys them, and recovery is placed almost beyond the reach of hope. He affirmed that he was not giving an exaggerated account of this wretched class of beings, between whom and humanity there seemed to be a gulf, which no one had as yet crossed to carry them relief. He held in his hand the evidence which would sustain all that he had said.

"From several facts and considerations, he inferred that the whole number of insane persons in the State could not be less than 500. Whether 500 of our fellow-beings, suffering under the bereavement of reason, should be longer subjected to the cruel operation of our laws, was a question which no man could answer in the affirmative, who was not himself a sufferer under the bereavement of all generous and humane emotions. But he would for a moment consider it as a mere question of saving and expenditure. He would argue it as if human nature knew no sympathies, as if duty imposed no obligations. And in teaching Avarice a lesson of humanity, he would teach it a lesson of economy also.

"Of the 298 persons returned, 161 are in confinement. Of these, the duration of the confinement of 150 is ascertained. It exceeds in the aggregate a thousand years;—a thousand years, during which the mind had been sequestered from the ways of knowledge and usefulness, and the heart in all its sufferings inaccessible to the consolations of religion.

"The average expense, Mr. Mann said, of keeping those persons in confinement, could not be less than \$2.50 per week, or if friends had furnished cheaper support, it must have been from some motive besides cupidity. Such a length of time, at such a price, would amount to

\$130,000. And if 150 who are in confinement exhibit an aggregate of more than a thousand years of insanity, the 148 at large might be safely set down at half that sum, or 500 years. Allowing for these an average expense of \$1 per week, the sum is \$52,000, which added to \$130,000 as above, makes \$182,000. Should we add to this \$1 per week for all, as the sum they might have earned had they been in health, the result is \$234,000 lost to the State by the infliction of this malady alone; and this estimate is predicated only of 298 persons, returned from less than half the population of the State.

"Taking results then, derived from so large an experience, it was not too much to say, that more than one half of the cases of insanity were susceptible of cure, and that at least one half of the expense now sustained by the State might be saved by the adoption of a different system of treatment. One fact ought not to be omitted, that those who suffer under the most sudden and violent access of insanity were most easily restored. But such individuals, under our system, are immediately subject to all the rigors of confinement, and thus an impassable barrier is placed between them and hope. This malady, too, is confined to adults almost exclusively. It is then, after all the expense of early education and rearing has been incurred, that their usefulness is terminated. But it had pained him to dwell so long on these pecuniary details. On this subject he was willing that his feelings should dictate to his judgment and control his interest. There are questions, said he, upon which the heart is a better counsellor than the head,—where its plain expositions of right encounter and dispel the sophistries of intellect. There are sufferers amongst us whom we are able to relieve. If, with our abundant means, we hesitate to succor their distress, we may well envy them their incapacity to commit crime.

"But let us reflect, that while *we* delay *they* suffer. Another year not only gives an accession to their numbers, but removes, perhaps to a returnless distance, the chance of their recovery. Whatever they endure, which we can prevent, is virtually inflicted by our own hands. Let us restore them to the enjoyment of the exalted capacities of intellect and virtue. Let us draw aside the dark curtain which hides from their eyes the wisdom and beauty of the universe. The appropriation proposed was small—it was for such a charity insignificant. Who is there, he demanded, that, beholding all this remediable misery on one hand, and looking, on the other, to that paltry sum which would constitute his proportion of the expense, could pocket the money, and leave the victims to their sufferings? How many thousands do we devote annually to the cultivation of mind in our schools and colleges; and shall we do nothing to reclaim that mind when it has been lost to all its noblest prerogatives? Could the victims of insanity themselves come up before us, and find a language to reveal their history, who could hear them unmoved? But to me, said Mr. Mann, the appeal is stronger, because *they* are unable to make it. Over his feelings, their imbecility assumed the form of irresistible power. No eloquence could persuade like their heedless silence. It is now, said he, in the power of the members of this House to exercise their highest privileges as men, their most enviable functions as legislators; to become protectors to the wretched, and benefactors to the miserable."

Mr. Mann continued to be returned by large majorities as a representative from Dedham, until the year 1833, when he removed to Boston, and entered into partnership in the practice of law with the Hon. Edward G. Loring. But his legislative duties were not at an end. At the very first election after his becoming a citizen of Boston he was chosen a senator from the county of Suffolk to the State Senate. By re-elections he was continued in the Senate for four years. In 1836 that body elected him its President; and again in 1837, in which year he retired from political life.

During the four years he was a member of the Senate, his name continued to be connected with all reformatory movements, and with almost every effort, whether legislative or social, for ameliorating the condition of men.

The report of the Commissioners for codifying the statute law of Massachusetts, which originated in the recommendation of a committee of the House of which he was a member, as before stated, was made in 1835, but before being finally acted upon, it was deemed advisable that it should pass under the hands of a joint legislative committee. Of this committee Mr. Mann was a member, and for a portion of the time chairman. This committee made many important modifications of the commissioners' report, and it is no disparagement to the valuable contributions made by others, to say, that a large number of most salutary provisions were incorporated into the code at his suggestion. In particular, that grand provision which distinguishes between poor debtors and fraudulent debtors was drawn up by him, and its views sustained in a long and elaborate report, which first offered the true solution of the long vexed question respecting "poor debtors," by providing certain tangible means and tests for distinguishing between the honest and the dishonest debtor, punishing the latter, but rescuing the former from the arbitrary power of his creditor.

At his procurement also the provisions were introduced by which "any person who shall be guilty of the crime of drunkenness by the voluntary use of intoxicating liquors" is punishable, and by which the public execution of criminals was abolished.

We suppose this to have been the first time that voluntary drunkenness was ever called a crime, in the statute laws of England or America.

After the "Revised Statutes," as they were called, had been enacted, Mr. Mann was associated, by a legislative resolve, with the Hon. Thomas Metcalf, now Judge Metcalf of the Supreme Court, to edit the work. It is understood that Mr. Metcalf prepared the index to the code, Mr. Mann the marginal notes and the references to judicial decisions. Other editorial duties were performed by them in common.

While a member of the Senate, he reported and sustained the bill for the enlargement of the Worcester Hospital; and while its presiding officer, he several times left the chair to take part in the debates of that body. The two most important occasions were the passage of the bill for incorporating the Western Railroad Company, and loaning the credit of the State for the work, and a bill to improve the common schools of the State by increasing the amount of money to be raised for their support. Of course, he spoke in the affirmative on both these measures.

In 1837, Mr. Mann left political and professional life to enter upon a

new and more congenial sphere of labor. In bringing this portion of his history to a close, it may be remarked, that though he was on many of the most important committees, and often chairman of them, and though few, if any, ever originated more projects for amending the laws, for promoting the pecuniary prosperity or ameliorating the condition of society, yet he never failed to carry through a single measure which he undertook. He saw effects in causes. He was cautious in the inception of measures; but, once undertaken, he was earnest and invincible in their support.

While a member of the House, he was for a time Judge Advocate in the militia. This fact is worthy of notice only because he officiated during the trial of Lieut. Col. Winthrop—a trial which attracted no inconsiderable attention at the time. It lasted thirty days. The published proceedings of the court filled a large octavo volume, and they contain several elaborate opinions of Mr. Mann, on broad legal and constitutional questions, which, considering his age when they were written, have been thought remarkable.

In sketching his legislative career, we have noticed only incidentally his connection with the causes of temperance and education. Having been brought up where ardent spirits were commonly used as a beverage, and universally esteemed a luxury, he has often been heard to say that "he and all his playmates were educated to become drunkards." "Many of them," he added, "became so; and such was the imminence of my own peril, that when I look back to my early life, I feel like a soldier coming out of battle who puts his hand up to his head to see if it is on."

When he commenced the student's life, he found that ardent spirits, though taken in the most moderate quantities, and far within the limits which custom then allowed to sober men, impaired his power of mental application. This was an intimation of duty which Heaven made through the laws of his organization, and he therefore abstained. For a number of years he drank wine occasionally, but never as a habit; and now for many years past he has discarded, not only wine, but even tea and coffee, using heaven's "pure element" alone, to the incalculable benefit of his own powers as a working man, and of his life as an example. May not these facts be presumed to have suggested the following passage in his Lecture to Young Men?—

"Such a young man reverences the divine skill and wisdom by which his physical frame has been so fearfully and wonderfully made; and he keeps it pure and clean, as a fit temple for the living God. *For every indulgence of appetite that would enervate the body, or dull the keen sense, or cloud the luminous brain, he has a 'Get thee behind me!' so stern and deep, that the balked Satans of temptation shrink from before him in shame and despair.*"

Soon after he became a resident in Dedham, its citizens formed a large and most respectable temperance society. He was elected its president, and wrote a vigorous address to the public in behalf of its object. When first chosen a representative to the General Court, he broke in upon the habit, until then uniform in that town, of "treating" the electors after the election was over; but lest his conduct should seem to spring from improper motives, he gave for charitable purposes a larger sum than the "treating" would have cost.

Thus, in various ways, and on all suitable occasions, he manifested his zeal in this cause at a time when its advocacy incurred reproach, obloquy, and the loss of professional business; and when, in June, 1837, he accepted the office of Secretary of the Board of Education, he was a member of the "Council of the Massachusetts State Temperance Society," and President of the "Suffolk County Temperance Society." These offices were then resigned, so that, wholly unincumbered by other things, he might bear the weight of the harness he was about to put on, and wield the weapons of the new warfare in which he had engaged.

We believe it will be found almost universally true, in regard to men who have distinguished themselves in any particular department, that they gave early indications of their ultimate eminence. In the moral, no more than in the natural world, does the fruit come without the bud and the flowering. An impulse derived from nature or from education, starts and grows in the deep recesses of the soul. For a time, it may be nursed in secret, now and then throwing out signs of its gathering force. But when the time and the occasion come, it bursts forth, full orb'd and complete, with the helmet on its head and the sword by its side, panting for the battle.

Such seems to have been the case with Mr. Mann in regard to popular education. From the earliest day when his actions became publicly noticeable, universal education, through the instrumentality of free public schools, was commended by his words and promoted by his acts. Its advocacy was a golden thread woven into all the texture of his writings and his life. One of his earliest addresses was a discourse before a county association of teachers, almost all of whom were older than himself, and many of whom might have been his parent or grandparent. After he entered the profession of law, it was his invariable practice to give legal advice and to prepare legal papers gratuitously, on all matters pertaining to public education.*

When he became Secretary of the Board of Education, he was for twelve years a kind of Attorney-General for the State in regard to school law; and since he left that office, so numerous are the applications made to him for professional advice, that, were he to charge the common fees of a counsellor, they would amount to no inconsiderable income. While other aspiring young men were writing political articles for the newspapers, he was writing educational ones. He aided the poor to acquire knowledge, loaned them books and pecuniary means, and trusted to their future ability to earn and repay. When practicable, he gave gratuitous instruction. As soon as eligible, he was chosen a member of the Superintending School Committee of Dedham, and continued to fill the office until he left the place,—an office in that large town of great labor,

* In a letter of his which, by accident, we have just seen, dated Washington, Dec. 19, 1851, not intended for publication, but which has been published in consequence of some legal proceedings, we find the following: "You ask me to forward my bill for my opinion. My dear sir, such has always been my interest in schools, that from the first day I opened a law office to the present time, though I have probably given more legal opinions on school matters than any other fifty men in the State, yet I have never charged a cent for one of them; and I think it is now rather too late to begin."

and then without any reimbursement even of its necessary expenses. There he began his lessons in the very difficult art of addressing children. With all his knowledge, whenever he arose to speak to the young, he became "as one of these little ones." Hence his success before the young, which is thought by those who have heard him to be more remarkable than his power of addressing men.*

In the General Court, he was always on the side of schools, advocating them in debate, and still more actively seeking occasions to converse with members and to ingraft his ideas upon their minds. He did not care who had the merit of proposing a good measure, he had his reward in seeing it carried.

In his "Reply" to the Thirty-one Boston Schoolmasters, written in 1844, the following account is given of the establishment of the Board, and of the appointment of himself as its Secretary, which we prefer to copy here because it has long since passed into history, and its correctness has never been questioned :—

"It was," says he, "at this point in my personal history, that the plan of a Board of Education as now established was projected. After many private conferences with an honorable friend of mine (Mr. Dwight), who has since evinced the sincerity of his attachment to this cause, a meeting was called at his house in the winter of 1837, to consider the subject of a Board of Education for the State. I need not recite details. The Board of Education was established by Act of April 20th of that year. Previous to and at that time, the suggestion had never been made to me, nor had the idea ever arisen in my own mind, that I should be appointed to the office I now hold. When that proposition was first made, though all the affinities of my nature leaped out towards it, yet I thought it to be forbidden by insurmountable circumstances. But at the organization of the Board, June 29, 1837, I was elected its Secretary. . . . I humbly hoped that while other friends of the cause were contributing of their abundance, I might, in this way, cast my mite into the treasury of the Lord."

The truth was, that on casting about for an appointee, the Board found but few who would accept the office of Secretary, which was to be poorly requited by pecuniary remuneration (its salary at first was but one thousand dollars), and promised to be so thankless in social rewards. At the first election there was one other candidate, and Mr. Mann was not chosen unanimously; but for the next eleven years he was annually re-elected to the same office, and each time it is believed by a unanimous vote of the Board.†

* If any one wishes to see a specimen of his skill in addressing children, let him read the letter to the children of Chautauque county, N. Y. See *Common School Journal*, vol. ix., p. 17.

† The late Hon. Edward Dwight, who was an early and generous friend and promoter of the cause, in 1838 gave ten thousand dollars towards establishing the Normal Schools. Afterwards, in 1845, he gave a thousand dollars towards defraying the expenses of the first Teachers' Institute ever held in Massachusetts, an experiment so successful that the Legislature at its next session made a grant for the same purpose, which is still continued. Mr. Dwight's heart and purse were open to appreciate the teacher's worth and to contribute for his encouragement.

Mr. Mann accepted the office against the advice and persuasion of almost his whole circle of friends. His more intimate associates dissuaded him from a field which promised neither honor nor emolument. His political supporters assured him that higher offices in the gift of the people might already be seen looming up in the distance and beckoning his approach. The judges of the courts before whom he practised expressed surprise that the pursuit of the distinctions and emoluments of the profession should be abandoned just at the period when they might be won. But though he could not answer their arguments, he had an instinct which was surer than the conclusions of logic. A strong purpose, both of the higher sentiments and the intellect, is a voice of prophecy. Where this voice is clear, all dissuasives, all threats, all allurements in other directions become sounds in an unknown tongue, for the inspired heart cannot understand them. He saw that the proposed work involved all the elements of true greatness. Education was the condition precedent of all human welfare. It is the vital element without which there can be no life. The dignity and power of individuals, the grandeur of nations so far as human agency is concerned, have no other enduring basis. Without education, the attributes of God cannot be known, and therefore cannot be aspired to; the infinite calamities of evil and sin cannot be comprehended, and therefore will not be resisted; the degrading vassalage of superstition cannot be understood, and therefore its reign will never be abolished. He saw in an enlightened education peace, glory, and life, the only atmosphere in which true Christianity can flourish; and he trusted that through all the hours of present darkness and toil, the light that shines out of the future would warm and illumine his course. Among all his acquaintances there was but one man who fully appreciated the motives of his choice, and tendered him a hearty congratulation.*

* The late Dr. William Ellery Channing, who wrote him the following letter:

NEW YORK, Aug. 19, 1837.

My Dear Sir,—I understand that you have given yourself to the cause of education in our commonwealth. I rejoice in it. Nothing could give me greater pleasure. I have long desired that some one uniting all your qualifications should devote himself to this work. You could not find a nobler station. Government has no nobler one to give. You must allow me to labor under you according to my opportunities. If at any time I can aid you, you must let me know, and I shall be glad to converse with you always about your operations. When will the low degrading party quarrels of the country cease, and the better minds come to think what can be done towards a substantial, generous improvement of the community? "My ear is pained, my very soul is sick" with the monotonous yet furious clamors about currency, banks, &c., when the spiritual interests of the community seem hardly to be recognised as having any reality.

If we can but turn the wonderful energy of this people into a right channel, what a new heaven and earth must be realized among us! And I do not despair. Your willingness to consecrate yourself to the work is a happy omen. You do not stand alone, or form a rare exception to the times. There must be many to be touched by the same truths which are stirring you.

My hope is that the pursuit will give you new vigor and health. If you can keep strong outwardly, I have no fear about the efficiency of the spirit. I write in haste, for I am not very strong, and any effort exhausts me, but I wanted to express my sympathy, and to wish you God speed on your way.

Your sincere friend,

WM. E. CHANNING.

See Dr. Channing's Memoirs, vol. iii, p. 89.

The duties of the Secretary were not defined with any minuteness in the Act which created the office, nor was it possible that they should be. The Legislature or the Board, indeed, might say that the Secretary should hold school conventions in every county in the State. But should he go into those conventions as a "dead-head," or as a "tongue of flame"? They might say he should call teachers together periodically at institutes for instruction. But should he teach them and inspire them with undying power when they assembled; or should he sit idly by and employ others to do the work? They might say he should prepare "abstracts of the school committee reports;" but should he study the whole body of these documents, and then prepare a volume of four hundred or five hundred pages, or should he take at random some forty or fifty short extracts and give them the required heading? They might require him to make an annual report; but a pop-gun makes a "report" as well as a park of artillery. In fine, it was impossible for law or order to prevent an incumbent from growing fat and sleek in this office. Nothing but the indwelling spirit of duty and enthusiasm could secure from its incumbent the utmost quantity and the highest quality of service.

No member of the Board had any salary, and they were not appointed for hard work. They were to counsel and advise beforehand, and, as far as practicable, to ratify and sanction afterwards. When some one asked Mr. Mann if he were not the *fac-totum* of the Board, he replied that he was the *fac* but not the *totum*.

Immediately on accepting the office, Mr. Mann withdrew from all other professional and business engagements whatever, that no vocation but the new one might burden his hands or obtrude upon his contemplations. He transferred his law business then pending, declined re-election to the Senate, and—the only thing that cost him a regret—resigned his offices and his active connection with the different temperance organizations. He abstracted himself entirely from political parties, and for twelve years never attended a political caucus or convention of any kind. He resolved to be seen and known only as an educationist. Though sympathizing as much as ever with the reforms of the day, he knew how fatally obnoxious they were to whole classes of people whom he wished to influence for good; and as he could not do all things at once, he sought to do the best things, and those which lay in the immediate path of his duty, first. Men's minds, too, at that time were so fired with partisan zeal on various subjects, that great jealousy existed lest the interest of some other cause should be subserved under the guise of a regard for education. Nor could vulgar and bigoted persons comprehend why a man should drop from an honorable and exalted station into comparative obscurity, and from a handsome income to a mere subsistence, unless actuated by some vulgar and bigoted motive like their own. Subsequent events proved the wisdom of his course. The Board was soon assailed with violence by political partisans, by anti-temperance demagogues, and other bigots after their kind, and nothing but the impossibility of fastening any purpose upon its Secretary save absolute devotion to his duty saved it from wreck. During a twelve years' period of service, no opponent of the cause or of Mr. Mann's views in conducting it was ever able to specify a single instance in which he had prostituted or perverted

the influence of his office for any personal, partisan, or collateral end whatever.

It is obvious on a moment's reflection that few works ever undertaken by man had relations so numerous, or touched society at so many points, and those so sensitive, as those in which Mr. Mann was now engaged. The various religious denominations were all turned into eyes, each to watch against encroachments upon itself, or favoritism towards others. Sordid men anticipated the expenditures incident to improvement. Many teachers of private schools foresaw that any change for the better in the public schools would withdraw patronage from their own; though to their honor it must be said that the cause of public education had no better friends than many private teachers proved themselves to be. But hundreds and hundreds of wretchedly poor and incompetent teachers knew full well that the daylight of educational intelligence would be to them what the morning dawn is to night birds. Book-makers and book-sellers were jealous of interference in behalf of rivals; and where there were twenty competitors of a kind, Hope was but a fraction of one twentieth, while Fear was a unit. Mr. Mann for many years had filled important political offices; and if political opponents could not find anything wrong in what he was doing, it was the easiest of all things to foresee something wrong that he would do. Many persons who have some conscience in their statements about the past, have none in their predictions about the future. And however different or contradictory might be the motives of opposition, all opponents would coalesce; while the friends of the enterprise, though animated by a common desire for its advancement, were often alienated from each other through disagreement as to methods. There was also the spirit of conservatism to be overcome; and more formidable by far than this, the spirit of pride on the part of some in the then existing condition of the schools—a pride which had been fostered for a century among the people, not because their school system was as good as it should and might be, but because it was so much better than that of neighboring communities. And besides all this, it was impossible to excite any such enthusiasm for a cause whose highest rewards lie in the remote future, as for one where the investment of means or efforts is to be refunded with heavy usury at the next anniversary or quarter-day. Then questions respecting the education of a whole people touched the whole people. Politics, commerce, manufactures, agriculture, are class interests. Each one is but a segment of the great social circle. While the few engaged in a single pursuit may be intensely excited, the great majority around may be in a state of quiescence or indifference. But so far as education is regarded at all, it is a problem which everybody undertakes to solve; and hence ten thousand censors rise up in a day. It is an object not too low to be noticed by the highest, nor too high to be adjudicated upon by the lowest. Do not these considerations show the multifarious relations of the cause to the community at large, and to the interests and hopes of each of its classes? And now consider the things indispensable to be done to superinduce a vigorous system upon a decrepit one,—changes in the law, new organizations of territory into districts, the building of school-houses, classification of scholars, supervision of schools, improvements in books, in methods of teaching, and in the motives and ways of discipline, qualifications of

teachers, the collection of statistics, the necessary exposure of defects and of mal-administration, &c. &c.,—and we can form some more adequate idea of the wide circuit of the work undertaken, and of the vast variety of the details which it comprehends.

A more politic or less earnest man would have begun gradually, and stolen upon the public by degrees. Mr. Mann laid his hand upon everything at once,—upon the abuses to be corrected, the deficiencies to be supplied, and the reforms to be begun. His first Report, and his first address or lecture, both written within the first six months after his appointment, foreshadowed everything that has since been accomplished. They were thought to be somewhat remarkable productions at the time; we think they will be regarded as much more remarkable, if examined now in the light of sixteen years of experience. The very boldness of his first strokes was the salvation of himself and of all concerned. A less adventurous course would have been ruinous. Special interests were, indeed, alarmed, but the malcontents were silenced by the resounding voice of the hopes he awakened. A holy chord of the public heart had been touched, and the contemplation of great principles enfranchised the mind from sordid motives. When the carol of the ascending lark turns all eyes heavenward, the cry and flutter of owls and bats are no longer heeded. He followed up his victory. His object was to commit the State to great measures of reform and progress before the day of reaction should come. Extensive changes in the law were proposed and carried. Union schools were provided for. School committees were paid. A system of county educational conventions was instituted. By means of "School Registers," a far-reaching plan was adopted to look microscopically into the condition of the schools, and ascertain what may be called their "vital statistics." The school committees were required to make "detailed reports" respecting the good and the evil of their respective schools; and from the whole body of these reports "abstracts" were made with immense labor on the part of the Secretary, but with immense benefit also to the cause. Above all, the normal schools were established, first under the plea of being an experiment; but long before that hold was released, they made a grasp upon the public good will, by success achieved and benefits bestowed, which has now incorporated them among the permanent and most valued institutions of the State.

All these instrumentalities were so many anchors with which the Secretary provided his vessel while the weather was yet calm, and by which he was enabled to ride out the storm, when at length it arose. After three or four years (the very time predicted by the Secretary at the outset of his career), the various antagonisms to progress which were too weak to effect anything separately combined their forces, and under an unscrupulous leader were clandestinely marshalled for the assault. The miser began to feel literally "to his cost" the advance of the system.* The book-maker who had sought in vain to make the Board or its Secre-

* During the ten years after Mr. Mann's Report on School-houses was presented to the Legislature, the sums raised by the self-taxation of the several districts, towns, and cities in the State, and expended for the *building or repairing of school-houses alone*, was TWO MILLION, TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.

tary subserve his private interests, could no longer discern any public reason for their existence. The sectarian who wished to turn the schools into proselyting agencies to stamp his dogmas upon the youthful mind, was offended because he was balked. All these, joined with the nameless tribe who always think the world is coming to an end unless regulated according to their plan, combined their forces for the extermination of the Board. The attack was made in the Legislature of 1840. A majority of the Committee on Education sprang a bill upon the House for the abolition of the Board, the discontinuance of the normal schools, and for setting things back to the point from which they had started three years before. The scheme was unknown even to the minority of the Committee, who were friends of the Board, until a few hours before the report was made. They sought for time to present a counter report, but it was refused, first by the Committee, and afterwards by a majority of the House. The plot was to choke off all discussion, and drive the bill through the House without delay or debate. But the first hour of notice enabled the Secretary and his friends to gain a day; with that day they gained a week; and with the week they defeated the measure. How different now would have been the condition of the public schools, not only in Massachusetts, but in New England—not only in New England, but throughout the country—had that machination been crowned with success!

It is not our purpose to dwell at length upon the two or three formidable controversies in which Mr. Mann was engaged in defence of the cause of education, or of himself as identified with that cause. We shall consult his feelings far better by practising upon the sentiment of Cicero, which was always his favorite motto, "*Amicitie sempiternæ, inimicitie placabiles*," let friendships be eternal, and all enmities be appeased. His former adversaries too will rejoice if we give but the briefest account of the warfare they waged, or of the blows they received. Mr. Mann certainly does not belong to the sect of non-resistants; we think he rather followed the counsels of Polonius:

"Beware
Of entrance to a quarrel; but being in,
Bear it that the opposer may beware of thee."

Always forbearing to the last, he adopted Gen. Washington's advice that we should wait until our adversary has put himself clearly in the wrong. His uniform course was, when attacked in a way that threatened injury to the cause, or to himself as its representative, to seek a personal interview with the assailant, or to write a private and conciliatory letter, offering explanation and deprecating contest; and thus he crushed many an egg before the young adders were hatched. Two principles governed his conduct in relation to all public attacks made upon him: first, he never noticed such as were merely personal, accusing him of want of ability, and so forth, but only such as were aimed directly at the cause intrusted to his care, or to him as its administrator; and second, the retributions he inflicted always had reference to the future, and were designed to prevent further injury or the repetition of wrong, and were never mere punishment for past misdeeds, however well de-

served. We challenge his most watchful enemy to cite a single instance where he enforced redress or demanded it, either when no injury had been done by an attack upon him, or when the injury done was remediless. Though ever so much personally wronged, yet as a revival of the past could effect no good for the future, he facilitated its descent to oblivion.

With these remarks we can abbreviate the history of Mr. Mann's controversies into a very few lines.

In 1843, under the auspices of the Board of Education (but at his own private expense), Mr. Mann visited Europe, to examine schools, and to obtain any such information as could be made available at home. His Seventh Annual Report, made on his return, embodied the results of this tour. Probably no educational document ever had so wide a circulation as this Report. Edition after edition of it was printed, not only in Massachusetts, but in different States of the Union, sometimes by order of State Legislatures, sometimes by private individuals. Several editions were printed in England. It was largely copied into newspapers everywhere. It was matter of great surprise, therefore, that the first questioning of its facts and criticism of its doctrines should be made in Boston. But in the autumn of 1844, a pamphlet of one hundred and forty-four pages appeared, entitled "Remarks on the Seventh Annual Report of the Hon. Horace Mann," &c., bearing the name of thirty-one of the Boston schoolmasters, contesting several of the facts, and impugning some of the views, especially on the subject of school discipline, set forth in that report. To this Mr. Mann immediately replied in a pamphlet of 176 pages, entitled "Reply to the 'Remarks' of Thirty-one Boston Schoolmasters," &c. In May following, a portion of the above masters rejoined in another pamphlet of 215 pages; and in July following, Mr. Mann replied in a pamphlet of 124 pages, which closed the controversy. From various independent sources the facts averred by Mr. Mann, and questioned by his opponents, have been since irrefragably proved; and in regard to the soundness of his views on discipline, or corporal punishment, the Boston masters became the agents of their own reformation; for when the merits of the question were publicly discussed, the community compelled them to conform in practice to the doctrines they had assailed. Other controversialists may have been as thoroughly vanquished in argument, but it is rare to see a body of assailants compelled not merely to abandon their own grounds of argument, but to conform their practice to the views of the party they had attacked.

In 1844, an individual of some prominence made an anonymous attack through the newspaper organ of a religious sect upon Mr. Mann, and upon the Board of Education, charging them, in substance, with being irreligionists or infidels. To this Mr. Mann replied at length through the same paper. A rejoinder followed; but when Mr. Mann offered a reply to this, the paper (the "Christian Witness and Church Advocate"), which had opened its columns to the attack, now closed them against the defence. It was therefore published in another paper. As the controversy embraced the question of the connection of public schools with religious teaching, it excited a great deal of public attention, and many of the leading papers in the State contained articles upon it. These were afterwards collected, and published in a pamphlet entitled "Common School Controversy," &c., &c. The whole affair redounded greatly to the credit

of Mr. Mann, and of the Board. While the importance of religious instruction in the schools was ably maintained, the freedom of all systems of public schools from sectarianism was unanswerably vindicated.

The only other noteworthy controversy in which Mr. Mann was engaged during his secretaryship, was with a clergyman of various reputation, between whom and himself there passed several pamphlet letters, in 1846-47. Of the utter demolition of this assailant, the public entertained but one opinion.

This was the last attempt ever made to subvert the Board, its Secretary, or the normal schools. Like oaks under storms, their roots struck deeper and grappled stronger, with every blast that threatened to overthrow them.

It may be mentioned, as characteristic of Mr. Mann, that during all these controversies, he never wrote or published an anonymous article against his opponents. Though often assailed by enemies in ambush, he never skulked behind a fictitious signature to reply, but always presented himself under his own name as a fair mark for their arrows.

Of Mr. Mann's labors, during the twelve years of his secretaryship, it is difficult to speak without the appearance of exaggeration. Some of the products, however, are before us. He wrote twelve long Annual Reports, of one of which—the tenth—the Edinburgh Review says, "This volume is indeed a noble monument of a civilized people; and if America were sunk beneath the waves, would remain the fairest picture on record of an Ideal Commonwealth!" From an immense mass of documents, he prepared eleven Abstracts of the Massachusetts School Reports and Returns, six of which are large octavo volumes in fine print. The statistical part of the school abstracts were formerly made up in the office of the Secretary of State, and three months was the usual allowance of time made to a clerk for executing the task. By the law establishing the Board of Education, this work was transferred to its Secretary. Mr. Mann made up the first one in the *nights* of four weeks, after his laborious *days'* work had been done; and none can appreciate what those days' works were who did not occasionally obtain a view of the thousands of pages of almost illegible and bad-spelled manuscripts from which he compiled his abstracts. The Common School Journal, which he edited, and a large portion of whose contents is from his pen, consists of ten volumes octavo. He published a volume of Lectures on Education, at the request of the Board. He travelled over the State every year (except the year when he visited Europe), to hold conventions or Teachers' Institutes. He often taught at the Institutes all day (sometimes alone), and then lectured to the people at large in the evening, thus instructing in the different common school branches, and in the methods of instruction also, unaided and alone. His correspondence amounted to more than all his other writings, and was carried on more or less with all parts of this country, and with the more enlightened nations of Europe. This was exceedingly voluminous, and has amounted to thirty letters in a day. Always giving legal advice in regard to schools gratuitously, he was called upon in all cases of doubt or difficulty; and we believe his legal opinions, when the cases on which they were given have been afterwards brought before the courts, have been invariably sustained. He superintended the erection of two State normal school-houses, and has drawn plans and given direc-

tions for hundreds of others, adapted, in regard to size and expense, to the wants and abilities of different localities. He often attended educational meetings in other States, to extend the cause and breathe enthusiasm into its friends; and he always considered it a part of his official as well as his social duty to receive and entertain all visitors, who came on any errand pertaining to the great work in which he was engaged. Well might he say, as he did in his Supplementary Report, in 1848, that, "from the time when I accepted the Secretaryship, in June, 1837, until May, 1848, when I tendered my resignation of it, I labored, in this cause, an average of not less than fifteen hours a day; that, from the beginning to the end of this period, I never took a single day for relaxation, and that months and months together passed without my withdrawing a single evening from working hours, to call upon a friend. My whole time was devoted, if not wisely, yet continuously and cheerfully, to the great trust confided to my hands."

Only in a single instance was any public appointment made by him during this whole period unfulfilled, and in that case his physician forbade his rising from a sick-bed to meet it.

Of the results of these labors, the educational world seems to have settled down into a clear and unanimous opinion. The labors were great, but they brought forth "an hundred fold." Compare the schools of Massachusetts with what they were in 1837, and it will be seen that order has been educed from chaos, vigor substituted for debility, and that a high degree of intelligence in educational processes has succeeded to a lamentable ignorance. Nor have the beneficent results of these labors been confined to Massachusetts. Most of the free States have followed in the march of improvement, and several of the slave States have endeavored to imitate the example; but, alas! with their institutions such a result is impossible. Many of Mr. Mann's Reports have been republished in this country and in England. His opinions are cited as authority in the Legislatures of the Union and in the British Parliament, and quoted in Reviews and in standard educational works. "It was my fortune," said the Hon. Anson Burlingame, in a public speech lately made, "to be, some time since, in Guildhall, London, when a debate was going on. The question was, whether they should instruct their representative in favor of secular education. They voted they would not do it. But a gentleman then rose and read some statistics from one of the Reports of Horace Mann. That extract reversed the vote in the Common Council of London. I never felt prouder of my country."

It might be supposed that one of Mr. Mann's energy and fervor would sometimes commit himself to measures whose soundness would not be ratified by results; and that, occasionally at least, he might find it necessary to retrace his steps. But it is a remarkable fact, that neither in his legislative life, which covered a period of ten years, nor during his secretaryship, covering a period of twelve years, did he ever propose a single measure which he did not carry through, or ever carry one through which, upon trial, it was found necessary to abandon. Whether in counselling and in executing plans for revising the whole civil code of a State, in erecting and administering a hospital for the insane, in establishing normal schools, or in projecting comprehensive measures for renovating the common school system of a commonwealth, prosperity and success,

in every instance, attended his exertions. *Finis coronat opus* may be written at the end of all his enterprises.

In one of the darkest and most perilous hours of his secretaryship, a proposition was made to him to accept the presidency of a college at the West, with a salary of \$3000 a year, besides the perquisites of house, garden, and so forth. This he promptly and peremptorily declined, saying that he had devoted himself, body, mind, and estate, to the cause of Popular Education in Massachusetts, and the only alternative on which he would leave it was success or death.

On the 23d of February, 1848, Mr. John Quincy Adams, who was a representative from the Congressional district in which Mr. Mann resided, died in the United States House of Representatives, which for almost twenty years had been the theatre of his noble labors in behalf of human freedom. A successor was to be chosen, but where should one be found? In passing the broad chasm which separated the "old man eloquent" from common politicians, all other men seemed about equally well qualified. Hence almost every town in the district had its candidate for the successorship. The nominating convention met with preferences almost equalling in numbers the individuals who composed it. Mr. Mann was named, and at once the only question was whether he would accept the offer if tendered. Even with this uncertainty, he was put in nomination; and though he was strongly disinclined at first to quit his favorite field of labor, and even wrote a letter declining the office, yet he eventually yielded his objections. His overruling motive lay in the fact that the country had just conquered an immense extent of territory, and the great question of questions—"the question of the age"—was, whether that territory should be rescued and consecrated to freedom for ever, or for ever cursed with slavery. As he correctly said, "A state of true and universal education would imply the highest state of earthly existence, but freedom was the prerequisite of education." He was elected at the first trial by a majority over all competitors, and immediately took his seat in Congress.

As soon as elected, he tendered the resignation of his secretaryship to the Board. They declined to accept it, urging his retention of the office for the residue of the then current year. He assented; and to this we are indebted for that crowning work of his educational life—his Twelfth Annual Report.

On the 30th of the ensuing June he made his *début* as a speaker in Congress, in a speech "On the right of Congress to legislate for the territories of the United States, and its duty to exclude slavery therefrom." This speech was read by his constituents and fellow-citizens of Massachusetts, and indeed by the lovers of human liberty throughout all the free States, with almost unexampled approval. We would commend those who have since disapproved his course in regard to the slavery question and incidents growing out of it, to reperuse that speech which they once so earnestly praised, and see if its doctrines do not logically necessitate everything he has since said on the subject; and whether, if that speech be assumed as a *datum*, everything which has since followed on his part was not indispensable to political and moral consistency.

In the ensuing November he was re-elected to Congress by an overwhelming majority, receiving eleven thousand out of about thirteen thousand votes.

We need not enumerate his subsequent efforts in opposing the aggressions of slavery and the spread of its dominion, and particularly of its spirit, over free territory ; because his leading Speeches in Congress, Letters to Conventions, and so forth, have been collected and published in a volume, where they will remain as an enduring memorial that no love of office, no seducement of sordid friendships, nor threats of partisan vengeance, could ever shake his steadfast soul from its allegiance to the immortal principles of freedom and humanity.*

Though attending diligently to all his legislative duties, he did not wholly abandon his favorite fields of education and charity. During his first session, he was appointed chairman of a select committee on the subject of the United States Penitentiary in the District of Columbia, and drew up the committee's report. He volunteered as counsel for Drayton and Sayre, indicted for stealing seventy-six slaves in the District of Columbia, and, at the trial in the court below, was engaged for twenty-one successive days in their defence ; and he afterwards argued their case in the appellate court, where the false rulings of the Judge below were so signally overthrown. A sketch of his argument, and an interesting account of this trial, may be found in the volume above referred to. As Secretary of the Board of Education, he still carried on all its correspondence, and on his return home at the close of the session, presided, lectured, and taught at all the Teachers' Institutes, and wrote his final Report.

In 1849, the Massachusetts Legislature, by joint resolution, requested him to digest and prepare a full account of the school system of the State as then existing by law, to be founded upon the basis of his Tenth Annual Report, but to incorporate all the subsequent legislation of the State. Of this work the State printed *ten thousand* copies for gratuitous distribution. It is the standard work on the various subjects of which it treats.

He now found time also to superintend the execution of another work, the idea of which he had been revolving in his mind for many years. It was a series of common school arithmetics, based, so far as its principal materials are concerned, upon an original idea. Instead of taking mere moneyed operations, or boxes or bales of goods, as the material out of which arithmetical questions were to be prepared, it surveyed the whole circle of arts, sciences, statistics, history, chronology, biography, geography, and so forth, and so forth, and framed its questions out of such of their facts as were found susceptible of an arithmetical statement ; so that the questions, as far as practicable, contained not only a problem to be solved, but an interesting and valuable fact worthy of being remembered. In the general arrangement and execution of his original plan, he had the very valuable assistance of P. E. Chase, Esq., whose name is associated with that of Mr. Mann in the work.

His speech on "Slavery and the Slave-trade in the District of Columbia," made in the House of Representatives, Feb., 1850, was most favorably received at the North, and had a very extensive circulation at the

* "Slavery: Letters and Speeches by Horace Mann," pp. 564. B. B. Mussey & Co. Boston, 1851.

South. Up to this period, Mr. Mann was on the flood-tide of popularity. Having officially retired from the field of education, and being therefore no longer engaged in carrying forward educational measures distasteful to any party, or prejudicial to any private interest, all had come to acknowledge his merits, and to appreciate his past services. His friends had witnessed the triumph of his measures, and could point to a long train of beneficent consequences, in legislation, in charity, in social reform, in education, of which he had been the author; while time and experience had falsified all the adverse predictions of his opponents. In addition to this, he had won new laurels in the political sphere,—not of a partisan or ephemeral character, but had connected his name with great principles which time nor decay can ever impair. Perhaps at this period there were few men so widely known who enjoyed a reputation less alloyed by censure or criticism than his.

But a new scene was now to open upon him, and a year of the bitterest opposition to arise from a quarter where least of all it could have been expected—from his own political friends. Mr. Webster's speech in the Senate of the United States, on the 7th of March, 1850, initiated the events we are about to narrate, and of which we shall speak in the impartial spirit of history. By that speech, Mr. Webster changed his attitude on the slavery question. In military language, he "faced right about." No other man ever became so suddenly popular, where he had been unpopular before; or so suddenly unpopular, where he had before been an object of admiration. The South, which for years had rung with hostility to him as a politician, now changed its censures to the loudest plaudits; and the North, which had always turned its ear towards the capitol where he was expected to speak, was now struck with dismay and with temporary dumbness. At first none attempted to justify, and but few to palliate. Of Mr. Webster's motives for this change we here say nothing. Of facts, in this connection, we are bound to speak.

Mr. Mann was among the first to see and predict the consequences of this step, so disastrous to the great question of human freedom then pending before the country. On the occasion of a visit, which he shortly afterwards made to his home, a numerous body of gentlemen belonging to his district, who declared that they "approved the course he had pursued in Congress, in maintaining so ably the sentiments and convictions which we maintain and cherish on the great national questions of the day," requested him to meet and address them "more at length than the one hour rule would allow."

On the 3d of May, 1850, Mr. Mann addressed to these gentlemen a public letter, in which he commented on the course taken by Mr. Clay, General Cass, Mr. Webster, and others. Towards Mr. Webster, this letter was couched in most respectful language. We believe a perusal of it now will show that it contains not one word at which Mr. Webster or the most jealous of his friends could justly take offence. Nay, it employed towards him language of high encomium. It said Mr. Webster had spoken "more eloquent words for liberty than any other living man,"—a compliment which, after all that has been said in behalf of freedom by contemporary orators, nothing but kindness could have prompted. We say that Mr. Mann himself had spoken more eloquently for liberty than Mr. Webster had ever done. Mr. Mann goes on to ex-

press "my admiration for his powers, my gratitude for his past services, and the diffidence with which I dissented at first from his views." He then proceeds to examine Mr. Webster's arguments, which he does with candor and eminent fairness. The examination is close, the language eloquent, the refutation triumphant. But the tone is modest and conciliatory. He said others had commented on points in Mr. Webster's speech more pungently than he was willing to do. The manner of the letter was eminently respectful towards Mr. Webster, excessively so, as it seemed to us, and to others of Mr. Mann's friends at the time. Still he did prove, with invincible force, the sophistry of Mr. Webster's arguments and the enormity of his conclusions. Here are two specimens we are anxious to insert. Mr. Webster had said that slavery was excluded from California and New Mexico "by the law of nature, of physical geography, the law of the formation of the earth;" that "California and New Mexico are Asiatic in their formation and scenery. They are composed of vast ridges of mountains of enormous height, with broken ridges and deep valleys." And hence he declared that, "If a resolution or a law were now before us to provide a territorial government for New Mexico, I would not vote to put any prohibition [of slavery] into it whatever."

To this Mr. Mann replied: "Now, this is drawing moral conclusions from physical premises. It is arguing from physics to metaphysics. It is determining the law of the spirit by geographical phenomena. It is undertaking to settle by mountains and rivers, and not by the ten commandments, a great question of human duty. It abandons the second commandment of Christ, and all bills of rights enacted in conformity thereto, and leaves our obligations to our neighbor to be determined by the accidents of earth, and water, and air. To ascertain whether a people will obey the divine command, and do to others as they would be done by, it looks at the thermometer. What a problem would this be: 'Required the height above the level of the sea at which the oppressor will undo the heavy burdens and let the oppressed go free, and break every yoke,'—to be determined barometrically. Alas! this cannot be done. Slavery depends not upon climate, but upon conscience. Wherever the wicked passions of the human heart can go, there slavery can go. Slavery is an effect. Avarice, sloth, pride, and the love of domination are its cause. In ascending mountain sides, at what altitude do men leave these passions behind them? Different vegetable growths are to be found at different heights, depending also upon the zone. This I can understand. There is the altitude of the palm, the altitude of the oak, the altitude of the pine, and, far above them all, the line of perpetual snow. But in regard to innocence and guilt, where is the *white line*? How high up can a slaveholder go, and not lose his free agency? At what elevation will the whip fall from the hands of the master, and the fetter from the limbs of the slave? There is no such point. Freedom and slavery on the one hand, and climate and geology on the other, are incommensurable quantities. We might as well attempt to determine a question in theology by the cubic root, or a question in ethics by the black art. Slavery being a crime founded on human passions, can go wherever those passions are unrestrained. It has existed in Asia from the earliest ages, notwithstanding its formation and scenery. It labors and governs on the flanks of the Ural mountains now. There are to-day forty-eight mil-

lions of slaves in Russia, not one rood of which comes down so low as the northern boundary of California and New Mexico."

By the resolutions for annexing Texas, not more than three additional slave States could by any fair construction ever be claimed. But Mr. Webster had stated and argued the case so as to give Texas a right to *four*. After demonstrating the fallacy, Mr. Mann says: "Here Mr. Webster gives outright to the South and to slavery one more State than was contracted for—assuming the contract to be valid. He makes a donation, a gratuity, of an entire slave State, larger than many a European principality. He transfers a whole State, with all its beating hearts, present and future, with all its infinite susceptibilities of weal and woe, from the side of freedom to that of slavery in the ledger-book of humanity. What a bridal gift for the harlot of bondage!"

This letter, in the then excited state of the public mind, created great sensation. Mr. Webster immediately broke off all personal intercourse with Mr. Mann, and in a letter written on the 15th of the same May, to some citizens of Newburyport, a town in the northeastern part of the county of Essex, in Massachusetts, he attacked Mr. Mann in the following language: "This personal vituperation does not annoy me, but I lament to see a public man of Massachusetts so crude and confused in his legal apprehensions, and so little acquainted with the constitution of his country, as these opinions evince Mr. Mann to be."

Here was a charge of "personal vituperation," and of ignorance of the laws and constitution of the country, under which no fair disputant, and no jurist, having a reputation to defend, could be expected to remain silent. Mr. Mann replied in a long and elaborate letter, published in the Boston Atlas in the following June, but still in a tone of respect and courtesy, though with somewhat more plainness of language. We quote the conclusion of his letter:

"I am not unmindful of the position in which I stand. I am not unaware that circumstances have placed me in an antagonistic relation to a man whose vast powers of intellect the world has so long and so vividly enjoyed, and so profoundly admired. I well know that a *personal* contest between us seems unequal, far more than did the impending combat between the Hebrew stripling and the champion of the Philistines, who had a helmet of brass upon his head, and greaves of brass upon his legs, and the staff of whose spear was like a weaver's beam. But the contest is not between *us*. It is between truth and error; and just so certain as the spirit of Good will prevail over the spirit of Evil, just so certain will Truth ultimately triumph. In such a case as this, there is one point of view in which Mr. Webster is a desirable antagonist; for the thick and far-beaming points of light which he has left all along his former course of life, cannot fail to expose, to all eyes but his own, the devious path into which he has now wandered."

On the 17th of June, just seventy-five years after the battle of Bunker Hill, and twenty-five after his masterly speech commemorative thereof, Mr. Webster made another speech in the Senate, seeking to fortify that of the 7th of March. This speech he sent to some "gentlemen on the Kennebec river," with a letter, in which, as it seems to us, he forgot not only all courtesy but all gentlemanly propriety towards Mr. Mann. Instead of offering a word of argument in confutation of Mr. Mann's con-

clusive reasonings, he treats them with language such as the following:—"One hardly knows which most to condemn, the nonsense or the dishonesty of such commentaries on another's words. I know no passion more appropriate to devils than the passion for gross misrepresentation and slander."

To this Mr. Mann replied in "Notes," added to a new edition of his preceding "Letters," which had been called for, and now, under the enforced change in the relation of the parties, he commented on the strictures of his opponent with just and appropriate severity. By this time, many of the leading Whig merchants and manufacturers and the journals of the Whig party in the Atlantic cities had changed their ground on the slavery question, and espoused the side of Mr. Webster. All these now assailed Mr. Mann with a fury and a bitterness which, hereafter, it will be difficult to credit. It was immediately proclaimed that he should not be returned to Congress at the ensuing fall election. At a packed convention of the Whigs of his district, he first failed of being nominated by a single vote, and afterwards another was declared to be unanimously nominated in his place. Every effort was now made by pro-slavery men to defeat him. Mr. Webster, then Secretary of State, came to Massachusetts, where he spent five or six weeks; and here he exerted all his influence against his most dangerous political antagonist.

The day of election was rapidly drawing nigh. An intense interest was felt in the result, not only in Mr. Mann's district, but throughout Massachusetts, and even beyond its borders. It was instinctively felt that the contest would have an important bearing, not only upon the State election, but upon national questions, and even upon that state of public opinion out of which the policy of the nation will hereafter flow.

Considering the high official influence that was thus brought to "interfere with the freedom of elections," the amount of money expended, and the grossness of the misrepresentations circulated, in order to defeat Mr. Mann, it was considered proper, whatever the law of custom might be, that he should take the field in his own person, and vindicate what was at once his own cause and the cause of liberty. This he did before a series of mass meetings, held at various localities in the district.

These meetings were unlike common political gatherings. There was no parade, and no noise. The empty drum was not the herald of the empty speech. On the contrary, a soberness amounting almost to solemnity everywhere prevailed. The audiences consisted of intelligent, conscientious men, earnestly seeking for truth. The speaker, disdaining all clap-trap and all appeal to passion, addressed their reason and their moral sense; but addressed them in such earnest and solemn strains of argument and of expostulation, as kindled the intensest feeling. The meetings seemed like those of the old Puritans, addressed by one of the stern pilgrims, to whose soul, glowing with religious enthusiasm, the obligations and the solemnities of both worlds were alike present. A Sabbath of rest came between the last meeting and the day of election; and then the people went to the polls as Cromwell's soldiers went to battle, and gave their verdict in favor of Mr. Mann by re-electing him to Congress by a triumphant majority over both the opposing parties. Following this result, there was great joy and gratulation on the one side; great mortification and chagrin on the other. It was well said that Mr. Webster was

the only man who could break down the Whig party in Massachusetts—and *he did it*; and that Mr. Mann was the only person in his district, who, against the influence of money, of party machinery and party press, and moreover, against the personal and political efforts of Mr. Webster himself, could have upheld the banner of free principles—and *he did it*. This he did, however, as may well be supposed, at great personal cost to himself. To dare to enter the lists against a man having such an armory of individual and official weapons at his command, and backed by such a host of office-holding and of office-expecting adherents, would be certain to bring down a storm of indignation upon him; but to do it successfully, and to worst the giant in the conflict, would make that storm a hurricane.

The controversy between the parties, in which these two gentlemen had now become so conspicuous, still continued, and the views and principles they respectively espoused made up a great part of all the political disquisitions of the day. On the 28th of February, 1851, Mr. Mann delivered his speech in the House of Representatives, on the Fugitive Slave Law, in which he exposed still further its unconstitutional and cruel character; and on the 19th of May following, pending the canvass for a representative to Congress from the fourth Congressional district of Massachusetts, he delivered a speech at Lancaster, the greater part of which was devoted to a consideration of the same law, and to an examination of the opinion then recently given by Mr. Commissioner Curtis, of Boston, in the case of Thomas Sims, who was stripped of his liberty and doomed to life-long bondage, without the sentence of any court or the verdict of any jury. Mr. Mann was never more eloquent. The iniquity of slavery, the unconstitutionality and atrocity of the Fugitive Slave Law, the wickedness of its authors and abettors, were set forth in language surpassing even the ordinary eloquence of the speaker. He who, by his great powers, had done more than all other men to bring this calamity upon the country, could not escape the lightnings of the indignant philanthropist.

In this speech, too, Mr. Mann set forth a doctrine which gave occasion for a display of the fiercest bitterness of his opponents. It was the doctrine that the personal vices of *public* men have no title or pretence to be considered as belonging to *private* character, and therefore to be exempted from *public* animadversion. He said, "In selecting men to be our political leaders, we have sometimes committed the gravest moral error. We have assumed the falsity of a distinction between a man's public and his private life. We have supposed that the same individual might be a bad man and a good citizen; a patriot and an inebriate; a faithful officer and a debauchee at the same time; might serve his country during office hours, and the powers of darkness the rest of the twenty-four. But I say, as of old, no man can serve God and mammon." . . . "When public men openly and notoriously practise vice, they make the vice public and bring it within public jurisdiction. If it is public for example, it is public for criticism; and under such circumstances, the moral and religious guides of the community are as solemnly bound 'truly to find and due presentment make' of these offences, as the grand jury is in the case of crimes against the laws of the land."

Mr. Mann well knew that the personal character of great states-

men is among the public forces which elevate or debauch the people ;
for,

“That sin doth ten times aggravate itself
That is committed in a holy place ;
An evil deed done by authority
Is sin and subornation.”

He knew,

“That poison shows worst in a golden cup,
Dark night seems darker by the lightning's flash,
Lilies that fester smell far worse than weeds.
Of every glory that inclines to sin
The shame is trebled by the opposite.”

Consider the question as a theorem in morals ; abstract it from all suspicion of application to any particular man, whom wealth or power may surround with adherents, and how demoralizing and flagitious is the doctrine that would make the public *particeps criminis* in the profligacies of life, by rewarding with high office and honors the man in whose keeping, for instance, the chastity of maidens and the sobriety of youth would not be safe ! Our politicians thrust themselves in every way upon public notice ; they bespeak our attention to their aptitude for public service ; and then they claim, in behalf of what they call their *private* characters, an immunity from animadversion. Private, forsooth ! Have they not voluntarily placed themselves in the public eye ? Is not their influence as men vastly increased by the addition of official rank, honor, and conspicuousness ? If their talent have a greater field for display, so does their vicious example become more potent for evil. The truth is too plain to be contested by any morally sane man, that the public and the private character of men belong together. They are indissoluble by nature. Their influences on others are inseparable. They universally go together in history. It is therefore false philosophy and false morals to attempt to separate them in contemporary treatment.

Mr. Mann's doctrine and practice on this subject have been uniform and consistent. In all his public teachings, he has always preached the sound and healthy doctrine, that a public man ought not to have any private vices ; nay, that he cannot have *private* vices. In so doing, he only preached a natural law. A city set upon a hill cannot be hid. As little can immoralities and profligacies be hid, when those who are guilty of them are exalted to high places. The exaltation is wrong, and in the end will bring its retribution. The country had a thousand times better forego the use of the ability with which vice may be associated, than to accept the evil influences of the vice for the benefit of the ability. Or, as Mr. Mann has expressed it, “I know that it is also said we must have great talents in the public councils at whatever price. Well, if this be your philosophy, don't do the work by halves, but import Lucifer at once !”

Surely, surely, in an age like this, when all moral and Christian men are lamenting that there should be such lack of religion and of principle in the public functionaries and public measures of the country, they should hail with pleasure the appearance of a Cato, even with all his sternness.

But it is time, after a few brief statements, to close this sketch. Mr.

Mann came very early into public life; that is, the ability and zeal he displayed made him early conspicuous. A glance at what we have written will show that he has engaged in a great variety of enterprises, calling for varied talents and acquirements. Of several of these enterprises he was the originator; in all of them, a leading and working spirit.

Now three things may be remarked of them all. First, they were of a character to commend themselves to the moral sense and humanity of the people. In all cases, the end and aim were noble. All had in view human improvement. None of them were such as would be attractive to men of a selfish and ambitious character.

Second, it is to be remarked that success has crowned his efforts. Where is the enterprise he has undertaken which has failed? This is not only a proof of his industry and ability, but of sound judgment and sterling sense. It is an answer to those who, untouched by the enthusiasm which has inspired him in his zealous pursuit of high objects, and lacking his faith in the progressive capabilities of the race, have pronounced him an enthusiast and a dreamer.

And thirdly, the proof is abundant, and all on one side, that the spirit in which Mr. Mann has pursued those high objects has been eminently unselfish and untainted with personal ambition. His self-esteem is so small, and his devotion to whatever cause he has in hand so intense, that it is easy to understand how he should have disregarded his personal interests. He espoused the cause of Temperance at a time when its advocates needed a strength of character acquired in some other social relation to bear up against the obloquy and opposition it incurred. Without property, and burdened by debts incurred for the expenses of his collegiate and professional education, he began his legal life by giving gratuitous advice and counsel in all cases where the interests of schools or teachers were concerned. Afterwards, when overtaken by the pecuniary misfortune that so often befalls a surety, and not only all the property he had acquired was lost, but he was involved to a large amount beyond his means to pay, he adopted a system of the most rigid economy, and even subjected himself to great personal privations, until every claim against him both of principal and interest was fully paid. He left the office of President of the Massachusetts Senate, and a professional income then amounting to three thousand dollars a year, and what may be considered at least a fair chance of political promotion, for what was then regarded as a very humble office, at a low salary, without perquisite or patronage, and necessarily attended with considerable expense—as administered by him, now known to have cost him not less than a third of his annual salary. At a time when this new enterprise, so fraught with benefits for all coming time, encountered a crisis of peril, and when a mere worldly sagacity would gladly have seized upon any occasion for an honorable escape, a proposition was tendered to him to accept the presidency of a western college, with a salary twice the amount of that he was receiving, and with valuable accompanying perquisites; he promptly rejected the offer, choosing to live or die by the cause he had espoused. In 1843 he visited Europe to examine their systems of education and methods of instruction, in hopes to learn and transfer something for the benefit of his own country; and this journey

he made at his own expense. In 1845, the Board of Education requested him by a formal vote to prepare a volume of his "Lectures on Education" for the poor, to be incorporated into the "Common School Library," which was then publishing under its sanction. This request he promptly executed, and in his letter informing the Board that the work had been done, we find the following statement: "Having prepared said volume at the request of the Board, it is not consonant with my views of propriety to receive for my own personal benefit any part of the profits arising from the sale thereof, for the purpose above specified." He accordingly devoted all the copyright money received from that source to advance the cause in which he was engaged; so jealously did he guard the possibility of making use even of his own earnings, where they had so much as the savor of an official origin. This letter, accompanied by a vote of thanks, the Board ordered to be placed upon their official files, where we have examined them, and where the original now remains as a monument of the Secretary's almost fastidious honor in everything relating to pecuniary transactions.

A year after Mr. Mann had been elected to Congress, and while he was absent at Washington, some friends of the cause of education in the Legislature of Massachusetts, who were not before particularly acquainted with the pecuniary sacrifices which he had made for it (among whom was the Hon. Charles W. Upham, of Salem, the chairman of the joint Committee on Education), became apprised of the extraordinary devotion of his means, as well as of himself, to the cause that had been intrusted to him; and through their agency this Committee was instructed "to ascertain what sums, if any, were paid by the late Secretary of the Board of Education out of his private means, for the erection of normal school-houses, and for other purposes of a public nature, with power to send for persons and papers."

In March following, the Committee made their report, which consisted mainly of statements made by various individuals, of such facts as they personally knew, concerning the pecuniary contributions made by Mr. Mann, out of his own private means, to carry forward the public work with which he had been charged. From this report, and the statements it contains, we shall quote largely. Biographies are rarely swelled by any great accumulation of similar details.

The Committee first introduce a letter from Mr. Mann himself, dated Washington, February 9, 1849, from which we make the following extracts:—

"The order empowers the Committee to send for persons and papers. You are pleased to put your requisition upon me in the imperative mood; though doubtless for no other reason than that of overcoming a repugnance I might be supposed to feel, against speaking upon the subject. . . .

"You must permit me to say, in the first place, that, until the receipt of your letter, I was entirely ignorant that any such movement had been made, or was contemplated, by any one. I could never have brought myself to ask, nor even to ask a friend to ask, for any remuneration for the sacrifices made, or the expenses incurred, in promoting the objects of my office. However much it may prejudice the end you have in view, I must, nevertheless, say, that those sacrifices and expenses were incurred without any expectation of reimbursement. When I left a lucrative pro-

fession for the Secretaryship, I cheerfully surrendered all hopes of wealth or promotion. And, from the day when I accepted that office, I held myself personally responsible for the success of the enterprise; and though it might cost me my means, my health, my life, or a hundred lives, if I had them, I held the triumph of the cause to be paramount to them all.

"On entering upon the office, it is well known that numerous, and in some cases heavy expenses were connected with it, such as never had been contemplated, either by the framers of the law, or by myself. Not a cent has ever been allowed me for clerk-hire or office-rent. At first, no provision was made for postages or stationery. Since provision was made for these latter items, I have never charged half their cost, lest the expenses of the office might excite opposition against it. Whatever books I needed, either in our own or other languages, I have been obliged to purchase and pay for myself. For other expenses incurred in travelling over the State, for the first five years,—occupying about four months each year,—no allowance has ever been made me.

"What I have paid for clerk-hire must, of course, be known to those who have received it; and what I have spent for educational works and documents, to be distributed over the State, must be known to those who have furnished, and who have received them. If there have been still other expenses, perhaps they had better come under the rule of not letting the left hand know what the right hand doeth. . . .

"In what I have already said, although said at your request, I may be thought by some to be treading on delicate ground. This movement did not originate with me. I cannot present myself in the form of a petitioner, asking for a return of what was voluntarily given. I must take care of my honor. The State is the proper judge of its own. If the State chooses to consider any part of the sums I have paid as paid on its account,—as paid for property of which it now has the benefit, or now enjoys the actual use and possession,—it will be gratefully received, both as a token of its approbation, and as the refunding of moneys I must otherwise lose. But let what will come, no poverty, and no estimate of my services, however low, can ever make me repine that I have sought, with all the means and the talents at my command, to lay broader and deeper the foundations of the prosperity of our Commonwealth, and to elevate its social and moral character among its confederate States, and in the eyes of the world.

"With the most respectful regards for yourself, and your colleagues on the committee, and with an earnest request that, in whatever you may deem it right to do in relation to this movement, you will take care of my honor, whatever may become of my purse,

"I remain, &c., &c."

The Hon. A. Hale, then a member of Congress, in whose place of residence—Bridgewater—one of the normal school-houses had been erected, made, among other things, the following statement:—

"The Board then advertised for proposals for the erection of the [Normal School] buildings, according to the plans and specifications which had been furnished by the Board.

"The proposals being very much above the amount at the disposal of

the Board for that object, alterations were made in the plans and specifications, reducing the expense of the buildings very considerably; but still the Board could not find any person to erect the buildings for the sum in their hands—and it seemed that the enterprise must be abandoned. Under these circumstances, Mr. Mann came forward, and gave his private obligation to pay the excess of the cost of the buildings, over and above the amount at the disposal of the Board. With this indemnity, the Board caused the buildings to be erected, and, on a settlement of the bills, it was found that the excess amounted to about \$740, of which an individual of the town of Bridgewater paid \$100, and Mr. Mann the residue.”

The following facts were detailed by the Hon. Josiah Quincy, jr., then Mayor of Boston:—

“I cannot withhold my testimony as to the disinterested liberality with which Mr. Mann has endeavored to forward the great cause of public education.

“I shall confine myself to pecuniary sacrifices on advances made by him, of a comparatively large amount.

“Five or six years ago, Mr. Mann applied to me for a loan on his law library, of some five or six hundred dollars, for the purpose of furnishing the lodging-house of the Normal School at Lexington. Knowing his circumstances, I endeavored to dissuade him from giving so much to the public, and refused, on that ground, to lend him the money; the result was, he sold his library, and furnished the house, losing, I have no doubt, in the result, the whole amount.

“Shortly after this, the land and school-house at West Newton were given to the public,* with the understanding that the citizens of that place, and the friends of education, would fit up the building in the most approved style.

“Some months after the building was completed, I learned, accidentally, that the necessary funds had not been raised, and that Mr. Mann and Mr. Pierce had expended and paid a large amount of their own money [\$1,300] for the repairs. A meeting of friends of the cause was immediately called at my house, without the knowledge of either of the gentlemen, to provide means for its payment. . . .

“Massachusetts owes the existence of two of her normal school buildings to the advances made by two gentlemen to complete the first.

“After the erection of the schools at Westfield and Bridgewater, Mr. Mann applied to me for a loan of \$2,000. On inquiry, I found that the appropriations for these buildings fell short of the contract prices, and, rather than run the risk of losing them, Mr. Mann had made himself personally liable for the difference. He insisted on borrowing the money, and giving security for it, and forbade my applying to any individuals, or to the State, on the subject. As it was a business transaction, I have never mentioned it, and should not have done it now, except at the order of the State. He gave as security almost, I believe, all his personal property—and still owes the debt.”

Mr. George B. Emerson enumerated various items, varying from \$40

* This donation was made by Mr. Quincy himself, though from his letter one would never surmise it.

to \$640 at a time, of whose payment by Mr. Mann from time to time, for the promotion of the cause, he happened to be personally cognisant, and then adds:—

“The expenses of printing the papers he has written, in defence of the cause of the Massachusetts Board of Education, fell principally upon him, and must have amounted to a very large sum. . . .

“It has always seemed to me that giving, as he did, his life to this work, and having made a very great personal sacrifice, in a pecuniary point, by accepting the office of Secretary to the Board of Education, he was less bound than any other individual to contribute towards these objects from his private purse. But he was in the habit of doing, at his own expense, what he saw was necessary for the cause, whenever no one else came forward to do it.”

Messrs. Dutton & Wentworth, “Printers to the State,” volunteered to send the chairman of the Committee the following letter:—

“DEAR SIR,—Learning that a movement is about to be made in the Legislature, to make some remuneration to the Hon. Horace Mann, late Secretary of the Board of Education, for personal and other expenses, incurred during his term of office, we beg leave to volunteer in his behalf. During the twelve years of his term of office, all the Reports of the Board and its Secretary have been printed by us. In regard to the printing he has ordered, he has always had it done in the most economical manner, and we wish to bear our testimony to the fact. Whenever he has wanted, for distribution, extra copies of his Reports, he has ordered them printed on his private account, and paid for them himself; we are unable to state the exact amount he has paid us for these documents, but should say it must have been \$75 or \$100. The documents he has purchased of us were his *own Reports*, school abstracts, lectures, &c. &c., besides circulars he has issued for teachers’ meetings, where addresses were to be delivered by himself and others. The amount stated above, we are aware, is not large, but the *spirit* of the transaction is more than the amount. He never would take a sheet, or a copy, belonging to the State, at any time. If he wanted copies for distribution, he has ordered them, and paid for them out of his own purse. In the matter of postages, he has also not been less scrupulous and conscientious, having always paid the expresses for letters and proof sheets, to and from himself, when he was in the country while his Reports were printing. In everything in relation to the duties of his office, he has always been very exact; scrupulous and uniform in the discharge of his duties, so far as the matter of printing is concerned. We believe the State owes Mr. Mann a great debt, and if the simple facts here stated will help his cause, we feel we are only doing an act of justice to him as an officer of the strictest integrity. With sentiments of respect and esteem,

“Your obedient servants,

“DUTTON & WENTWORTH,

“*State Printers.*”

On this letter the Report remarks:—

“The letter from Messrs. Dutton & Wentworth is quite remarkable, as proving the scrupulous sense of justice and honor that has marked Mr. Mann’s discharge of his late office. To use an expression which bears the stamp of his own peculiar richness of illustration, he has been careful

‘to shake the gold dust from his garments, whenever he has had occasion to go into the public mint.’”*

Wm. B. Fowle, Esq., bookseller and publisher of the *Common School Journal*, during the last six years of the time that Mr. Mann was its editor, being called upon for information by the Committee, attested as follows:—

“It always appeared to me, that Mr. Mann had set his heart upon the great work of resuscitating the school system, at any sacrifice to himself, of ease or property. I never knew what resources he had, but I often wondered at the liberality, or what to me seemed the prodigality, of his donations; and yet the expenditure of his money must have been to him a trifle, compared with the outlay of strength which I often witnessed. I often warned him of his danger, when I saw him suffering from an over-worked brain, but he never desisted, though he admitted the danger, for the work was to be done, and, if neglected, though beyond human strength, the community, not knowing this, would consider him unfaithful. This was his greatest sacrifice in the cause of education, but, as no pecuniary estimate can be set upon this, perhaps I should not have alluded to it. I have known him for weeks to be unable to sleep. When Mr. M. entered upon his duties, it was evident that his efforts would be very restricted, if he did not contrive to scatter the information he collected. Indeed, the law required that he should both collect and distribute, but the State made no provision for the distribution! As the most popular and economical method of complying with the requirements of the law, Mr. M. commenced the *Common School Journal*. At the end of the fourth year, when I became the publisher, the receipts had fallen short of the expenditures. Since that time, viz., for six years, the loss has not fallen upon Mr. M., but he has continued to edit the *Journal*, because he considered it essential to the success of the great cause.

“The vols. contain many valuable documents, which it was important to scatter widely over the State. It was Mr. M.’s custom to print extra numbers of these, and distribute them gratuitously to the schools. I recollect three or four cases, in which he sent a copy to every district, of which there must have been three or four thousand. . . .

“Probably each of these donations cost him seventy-five dollars. Many single volumes of the *Journal*, and sometimes whole sets, were given away for the general good, but of this I have no record, though I know the volumes amounted to hundreds.

“The compilation of the volume of Abstracts was a heavy task, but, besides making this, he actually paid for the making of the index, which, I know (for I made one of them), is no slight affair. . . .

“Two other items have occurred to me, and they should be mentioned

* While Mr. Mann was a candidate for the office of Governor of Massachusetts (as hereafter mentioned), he was informed that an emissary of one of the political parties opposed to him had been at the State-house for three days, overhauling the accounts and official records made by him while Secretary of the Board of Education, in hopes to find or create some pretext for impeaching his conduct. “Let him get a microscope,” said Mr. Mann, “and blind himself with looking. He will not only find no stain in my official conduct, but I hope the examination of it will make him an honest man.”

as helping to illustrate the perfect forgetfulness of self, which marked the official course of Mr. Mann.

"Three or four years ago, when outline maps began to be used in schools, it became proper that the pupils of the Normal Schools should be taught how to use them. As the Board of Education had no funds, Mr. Mann paid for three sets, one for each school. The price is \$25 a set.

"Before Mr. M. went to Europe, I had frequent conversations with him on the subject of European schools, and he regretted that he had not that personal knowledge which could enable him to compare them with our own, and to propose such improvements as would really advance our own. I think this was his only motive in going, for he visited nothing but schools, and returned as soon as possible. The expenses of his visit must have exceeded his salary 1000 or 1500 dollars, and, on his return, I proposed to him to put his notes into the form of a book, and let me publish them, assuring him that the copyright would produce more than he had expended beyond his salary. His reply was, that he was a public officer, and went for the public, and the public were entitled to the information, free of any such tax. His remarks, therefore, were thrown into his Seventh Annual Report, and *given to the State.*"

After paying a merited tribute of respect to the Hon. Edmund Dwight for his well known liberality in the same cause, the Committee close their report with the following paragraph, and with a resolve for paying out of the treasury of the Commonwealth "the sum of two thousand dollars, in favor of Horace Mann, late Secretary of the Board of Education":—

"The Committee do not propose, as they feel confident that it would not be agreeable to Mr. Mann, to make out an exact account of what the State may owe him, in dollars and cents. He does not desire, and would not be willing, to be fully reimbursed, but, before all money that the treasury of the Commonwealth contains, he prefers to cherish the happy and noble thought that he has labored and suffered in her behalf. He asks for nothing, and has had no voluntary agency in this movement. Nothing would be more repugnant to his well-known sensibilities than to have a claim urged upon the State for an exact settlement of his accounts with it, upon mere business principles. What he has done he meant, at the time, for a gift, and the Committee do not propose to deprive him of the title of a benefactor. They do not propose to *pay him off*, but, under the circumstances, they are of opinion that the passage of the following resolve, although not amounting by half to what upon a strict computation is equitably due to him, would be more agreeable to his feelings than a more precise remuneration."

From authentic information we are able to say that this sum was but a very small part of what had been paid by Mr. Mann from his own pocket, in furtherance of the cause of education, while he was Secretary of the Board; but, inadequate as a remuneration though it was, it was in the highest degree honorable both to giver and receiver. Before any one complains of Massachusetts for not doing more, let him point to a single State in our Union, or to a single government in the world, which, under such circumstances, and *for such a class of services*, would have done as

much. We believe the resolve was passed, in both Houses, without a dissenting vote.

The same spirit has signalized the course of Mr. Mann in whatever other cause he has been engaged. In 1848, the first year of his being in Congress, with his new legislative duties on his hand, and still discharging those of Secretary of the Board, when the excited people of Washington threatened to mob Mr. Giddings merely for appearing as counsel for Drayton and Sayre (the prisoners charged with stealing and abducting seventy-six slaves, in the schooner "Pearl"), Mr. Mann volunteered to become their counsel, battled their case in the court below for twenty-one successive days, appealed from the verdicts rendered by the jury under the false rulings of Judge Crawford, got all those verdicts set aside in the District Court, and then again, after the cases were remanded for a new trial, contested them for ten days more, and finally saved the prisoners from all but a pecuniary penalty; and for all these services, he never asked nor received a cent of compensation.

The principal of Mr. Mann's published works are the ten volumes (octavo) of his Common School Journal; a compilation called Abstracts of the Massachusetts School Returns and Reports (in which the amount of printed matter far exceeds that of all the volumes of Sparks's "Life of Washington"); his twelve Annual Reports as Secretary of the Board of Education; his volume of "Lectures on Education;" his "Speeches and Letters on the subject of Slavery;" his controversial writings, which are voluminous; his "Thoughts for Young Men," a lecture of which some twenty thousand copies have been sold; two lectures on temperance, one addressed to the "poor and ignorant," the other to the "rich and educated;" two lectures on the Powers and Duties of Woman; Fourth of July orations, &c., &c. Of his last speech in Congress, delivered August 17th, 1852, more than a dozen editions have been printed in different States, and more than a hundred thousand copies sold.

A few years ago, the degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred on Mr. Mann by Harvard College. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, &c., &c.

On the 15th of September, 1852, Mr. Mann was nominated for the office of Governor by a Convention of the Free Democracy of Massachusetts, held at Lowell; and *on the same day* he was chosen President of Antioch College, a new institution situated at Yellow Springs, Greene co., Ohio. The trustees had voted that the college be opened on the first Wednesday of October, 1853. Thus from the day Mr. Mann entered public life, he has always been elected or appointed to a new office before the time of his previous election or appointment had expired.

The political organization with which Mr. Mann's sentiments and convictions in behalf of human freedom had led him to act, was numerically the smallest of the three political parties in Massachusetts. Of course, he was not elected, but his vote ran thirty per cent. ahead of that thrown by the party.

The peculiarities of the college over which Mr. Mann is called to preside are those for which, during the whole course of his life, he has shown the strongest affinity. It is founded on a most liberal basis as to denominational tenets. Those under whose auspices it has been started take the Bible for their rule of faith and practice, rejecting all man-made

creeds; they hold that the tree is known by its fruit, and therefore that Christian character and a Christian life are the true tests of Christian fellowship.

The institution is also founded to secure the realization of one of Mr. Mann's most cherished objects during his whole educational career—namely, to give to the female sex equal opportunities of education (we do not say equal education, or, in all respects, the *same*, but equal *opportunities* of education) with those which are afforded to males.

We are glad to see Mr. Mann restored to the sphere of educational effort, and rejoice that he will have an opportunity to put in practice his favorite ideas on this grandest of subjects. It will be grateful for all who honor him to think of him again as a laborer in the glorious fields of learning, surrounded by the young and emulous whose aspirations he knows so well how to guide to noble ends. He is still in the vigor of mature age; and though he has labored as few men can labor and live, yet he has been so temperate, and so regular in those habits on which strength and life depend, that his ordinary health promises to hold out for many years. Of one thing we may be sure, that, so long as life is in him, so long will he strike for the right and at the wrong.

RICHARD DE FOREST,

OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

THE Rev. Richard De Forest, as his name implies, is of French descent. We find that his earliest ancestor in this country migrated from France to escape persecution for his religious principles. His name was Isaac De Forest, and he was a member of that persecuted sect, the Huguenots, whose sufferings will always excite the sympathy of enlightened minds, and whose constancy under affliction entitles them to the highest rank in the "noble army of martyrs."

This gentleman, flying from the tyranny that condemned all those who held his opinions to an ignominious death, sought refuge and an asylum on these western shores, and landed on the spot *then* called NEW AMSTERDAM, where now stands the great commercial metropolis of New York. He was a man of influence and wealth, and was a member of the first Board of Trustees of the Collegiate Churches of New York, who received the original deed of real estate from the King of Great Britain about the year 1638.

The paternal progenitor of the subject of this sketch, Abraham De Forest, was a native of Somerville, Somerset county, New Jersey. He had been taught the honorable trade of a carpenter, and pursued in his youth the calling hallowed as that which the Son of Joseph and Mary is said by the Evangelists to have used for the support of his parents before he commenced his divine mission of Saviour of the world. His mother,

a Miss Catharine Fulkerson, also a native of New Jersey, was born and reared upon the beautiful banks of the Raritan, on a farm about four miles from the city of New Brunswick, which had been in the possession of the Fulkersons and occupied by that family for nearly two centuries. After their union his parents removed to the city of New York, where they were blessed with two children, an only son and a daughter. Richard, the son, was born on the 24th of May, 1802, and is consequently at the time of writing this memoir in his fifty-first year.

When he was about seven years old, his parents removed with him to Schoharie county, in the State of New York; from whence, after a residence of two years, they changed their home to the town of Ovid, in Seneca county, where they remained until he had attained his fourteenth year, when they removed to Chili, Monroe county, a town about ten miles from the city of Rochester.

At the early age of eighteen, impressed with the truth of the injunction, "Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth," and feeling the necessity of looking beyond this world and its vanities for solace when "the days should come when he could have no pleasure in them," he made a public profession of religion, and united himself with the Congregational church in Chili. At this time the greatest desire of his soul was to become a preacher of the gospel of Christ, and he became very solicitous to prepare himself for the ministry by the study of theology; but his means not permitting him to enter college for that purpose, and no way appearing to obtain the necessary qualification for that important office, he was reluctantly compelled to give up his cherished hope, and to turn his attention to some pursuit by which to support his family, for he had united himself in marriage with Miss Charlotte McKee, daughter of Francis McKee, of Adams, Jefferson county, N. Y. But

"There's a divinity which shapes our ends,"

and in his case the operation of this providence became plainly visible. In the year 1828, his attention was again directed to the call, and his mind strongly impressed with the feeling that it was his duty to preach the "everlasting gospel." Reflecting deeply upon this serious matter, he was induced to apply for advice to Josiah Bissell, Esq., an active and energetic Christian citizen of Rochester, and the Rev. Joel Parker, now of New York city. These gentlemen both agreed in urging him to follow the dictates of his conscience, and obey what appeared to them an evident vocation. In accordance with their advice, he relinquished his worldly pursuits, and commenced a preparation for the ministerial office under the instructions of the Rev. Joel Parker. Up to this time his attainments in knowledge had not been very great, but having had the benefit of an excellent common school education, he possessed a foundation upon which to build.

After continuing his studies with the Rev. Mr. Parker until he had made considerable advances towards his contemplated profession, he entered a classical school in Rochester, of which the present Professor of Mathematics in Burlington College, Vermont, Farrand N. Benedict, was the principal. He remained under the instruction of this amiable man and successful teacher for two years, and to the aid extended by him,

and the deep and friendly interest exhibited he attributes the proficiency attained during that period, whilst his remembrance of the kindness and patience displayed in unfolding to his mind the hidden lore of the ancients still elicits from him the warmest expressions of gratitude. He then entered the Auburn Theological Seminary, of which at that time the Rev. James Richards was President. During the time he was occupied in these preparatory studies his family consisted of his wife, and Jane M., an only daughter.

He received a license to preach the gospel from the Black River Association, in the State of New York, on the 26th of January, 1832, and immediately entered upon his duties, preaching his first sermon on the following Sabbath in Adamsville, Jefferson county. Returning to the seminary at Auburn, he remained there until April following, when he was ordained to the work of the gospel ministry by the above named Association on the 5th of April of the same year. He then entered fully upon his ministerial labors in western New York as pastor of different churches in that section until the year 1840, when he was led by the providence of God to commence laboring as an evangelist. In thus approaching the position of the earlier apostles he followed their example, and wherever two or three could be collected together he extended to them the free gifts of the gospel. In this capacity he labored for seven years, and his efforts were blessed by the great Head of the church in the hopeful conversion of many in every regular series of meetings at which he officiated during this period. Four of the seven years occupied by his evangelical labors were spent in the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin. In the course of his apostolic dispensation he felt it his duty to travel extensively.

"The world was all before him, and Providence his guide." And in fulfilling the divine behest to preach the gospel to every creature, he visited the British possessions in Canada, and besides the States above mentioned, proclaimed the solemn and cheering truths of Christianity throughout Vermont, Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Michigan, Kentucky, Missouri, and Iowa. In Indiana he organized two churches. During his ministry he has preached nearly four thousand sermons, and in the course of one year he delivered four hundred and twenty-six, averaging over one sermon for each day.

On his return from the field of his labors in the Western States, he purchased a lot in the city of Rochester, and erected thereon a building containing one room for the purpose of preaching on the Sabbath. It was in a part of the city inhabited by the poor and destitute, to whom the Word had seldom been preached, and for whom a place of worship was much required. This was done before he had preached a single sermon in the neighborhood. When the edifice was completed, and the room prepared, he went through that section of the city, from door to door, visiting every cabin and hovel, to inform the inhabitants that there would be a school commenced on the following Sabbath, in the forenoon, and preaching in the afternoon and evening. The Sabbath-school opened with forty scholars, and in the afternoon and evening the people crowded the room. He preached his first sermon in this room on the 12th of December, 1847, and continued to preach on every succeeding Sabbath

until the latter part of February following, when indications of a revival becoming apparent, and upon one Sabbath in particular perceiving that his words had made a deep impression on his hearers, he gave notice that he would preach every evening in that week; accordingly he commenced these evening exercises, and continued them regularly for four successive weeks. Aid was given him from above, and the Head of the church signally blessed his endeavors in the hopeful conversion of a goodly number of those who had listened to his preaching of the Word. As the result of this manifestation of divine grace, a church was organized on the 26th of March, 1848, consisting, at first, of twenty-two members, under the name of "St. Paul Street Congregational Church." In the month of May following, Mr. De Forest commenced building a house in which this newly formed congregation might worship; this was to be a building of brick, seventy-five feet long and forty-two feet wide. Whilst erecting this church, besides fulfilling his duties as pastor of the congregation for whom it was intended, he had also to exercise the functions of trustee, and assume the responsibilities of a building committee. He furnished all the materials, superintended the workmen, circulated subscription lists, collected the funds required for the work, paid the laborers, and amid these various employments, had to find time to prepare the sermons which he delivered every Sabbath to his infant congregation. He also made a purchase of a lot of ground adjoining the church, which he presented to the society as the site for a parsonage. This place of worship was at length completed, and the congregation—which may justly be called his, having had its origin through his ministrations in that little room—have now acquired a suitable temple in which to offer up their sacrifice.

But in the midst of his useful and laudable exertions he was called upon to weep the consequence of

"Man's disobedience and the fall;"

for death entered his household and tore from his embrace the wife of his bosom, who had been his loved consort for twenty-seven years. This was a heavy stroke, and he keenly felt the blow, but his confidence in the benignity of the Supreme Ruler of human affairs, in all his dispensations, brought with it the consoling power of resignation, enabling him to check the rising sorrow, and exclaim submissively, "Thy will be done." Notwithstanding his great bereavement, he did not allow his own misfortunes to interfere with the great objects he had in view; he still continued to devote himself to the building up of his church, and brought, as we have seen, the little flock he had gathered and increased into a commodious edifice.

His second wife was a daughter of Joseph Dart, Esq., of Middle Had-dam, Connecticut; a lady of devoted piety and amiable disposition.


But the ways of Providence are inscrutable. In the midst of his usefulness Mr. De Forest was seized with a sudden deafness, which so far interfered with his professional duties as to compel him to retire from the pulpit, and although he is not now able, as formerly, to exhort in public, yet he is devoted to the cause of Christ, in which he still successfully labors with all the powers he possesses, and which he considers the only object in this world worth living for.



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